

Bob Margarita

38 years of service to the Stoneham Public Schools. 1964 thru 2002

Teacher, Football Coach & Equipment Manager



The word “legend” is often thrown around liberally, but many Stoneham residents don’t hesitate to use it about Bob Margarita.

A Medford native, Margarita starred for the Mustangs in baseball and football, leading the baseball team to back-to-back appearances in the State Tournament final at Fenway Park and later becoming a charter member of the Medford High Hall of Fame.

It was on the football field, though, that his success would lead him to a career path that would change his life. After starring for Medford, Margarita went on to Brown University, where he led the nation in rushing in 1942 until being injured in the second half of the season. His 233 rushing yards against Columbia established a Bruin record that would stand for fifty years and he was later named to the Brown University Hall of Fame.

Margarita then went on to play for the Chicago Bears, where he was named All-Pro in 1945 and helped them in their successful drive for the NFL Championship in 1946.

When his playing career ended, Margarita began a successful coaching career, with stints at Yale, Harvard, Boston University and Georgetown whom he led to a berth in the Sun Bowl.

Margarita arrived at Stoneham High in 1963, first as a physical education teacher, then moving to social studies in 1964 when he also took over as football coach. The Spartans sported a 7-2 record in 1972 which was good enough to give them a share of the Middlesex League title. That year, he was given the Association of New England Football Officials Award, “for maintaining high ethical standards in the football coaching profession and teaching the game of football to boys so that they become men who exemplify the highest traits of American sportsmanship.”

Margarita retired from teaching in 1987 to become the Stoneham High School equipment manager and could usually be found at SHS sporting events with his dogs Luke, Touchdown or Root Beer.