

Herant John Adzgian

Class of 1931 - Football, Basketball & Baseball



Stoneham High class of 1931 graduate, Herant John Adzgian, excelled and accomplished at the highest levels of both academics and athletics, leaving behind him a life well lived at the time of his passing in 2003.

"Adzi" was a football, basketball, and baseball star for the Spartans and was one of its first three-sport superstars, as well as the Junior and Senior Class President at SHS. Adzgian was the tail back and line backer on the undefeated 1929 Stoneham Spartans football squad, and was the leading scorer in Massachusetts that season - proving to be a scoring threat with his churning legs and his right arm on several Adzgian touchdown passes during his SHS career. The explosive Spartan returned six first-half or second-half opening kickoffs for touchdowns during that miraculous season.

"Adzgian played his usual sterling game," read one account in the Stoneham Independent. "His tackling was spectacular and he also got loose on several long runs." Adzgian was a guard on the Middlesex League champion basketball team his senior year. He was also a three year starting third baseman on three Middlesex League Champion baseball teams - with a dual role as a baseball Captain his senior year.

The speedy Adzgian attended Harvard University after graduation and played both baseball and football for the Crimson, and then set his sights on becoming a coach and teacher. Adzgian landing first at the Berkshire School for Boys and then at Lexington High School in 1942 to serve as Lt. Commander in the United States Naval Reserves during World War II.

John Adzgian married Elizabeth Maude Gallup in 1939 and had two sons, David and Donald. He taught math and coached baseball and football at Lexington High School during a 28-year career at the school. Adzgian enjoyed 63 years of marriage before his passing on May 15, 2003 at the age of 90.