

Peter "Pete" Savelo

Class of 1934 - Football, Basketball, Baseball & Track



For those who witnessed Stoneham High School Athletics in the days before World War II, the the Pete Savelo stands out as one of the best of the era.

The 1934 SHS graduate played basketball, football, and baseball - excelling in all of them. In basketball he led the team in scoring until an injury ended his senior season.

On the diamond, he batted .450 for the baseball team as a junior and topped that with a .571 average his senior year. A left-handed first baseman, Savelo was selected as a Middlesex League All-Star by a post-season coaches' poll and went 1-for-3 in an All-Star game against Belmont.

On the football field, Savelo took advantage of the single-wing formation to run, pass and receive passes for touchdowns and then was often called upon to kick the extra point. Against Reading he scored the winning touchdown, a 26-yard reception. The next week he scored two TD's against Marlboro in a 12-7 victory, one a rushing touchdown and the other a reception. Savelo followed that up with two TD's the following week against Methuen.

After graduating from Stoneham High, Savelo attended Wentworth Institute but left after a year to help support his family when his father became injured in a work-related accident. Nevertheless, Savelo continued his athletic pursuits, playing for both the town football and baseball teams. He also starred for an Italian All-Star team that went 31-1 and played softball until age 55.

During the war, Savelo served in the U.S. Army Air Corps, stationed in England. His team of engineers was among the first to land at Normandy after the invasion. After the war, Savelo began a career in construction, building many of the homes which comprise the neighborhoods of Stoneham today. He also spent five years coaching Little League baseball in Stoneham.

In 1939, Savelo married his wife Elizabeth with whom he celebrated his 66th wedding anniversary last October, 2005. The now retired couple raised four children and still reside in Stoneham.