

Lou Rettino, Coach, Dies at 54; Led Teams to New Jersey Titles

By GRANT GLICKSON

Lou Rettino, one of the most successful high school football coaches in the country, died of stomach cancer Friday at his home in Westfield, N.J. He was 54.

Mr. Rettino led Union High School to an unprecedented 10 New Jersey state sectional championships, including one in 1993, the year his illness was diagnosed.

Two of Mr. Rettino's most prestigious honors came earlier this year, when he was named national coach of the year in 1995 and the top coach of the last decade by the National Interscholastic Coaches Association. "We played many games against each other and he won the majority of them, despite the fact that he usually had far less talent than us," said the Elizabeth High School coach, Jerry Moore. "In my mind, he was the best high school football coach in the country."

Mr. Rettino, a former professional football player who once played for the Green Bay Packers under the legendary coach, Vince Lombardi, had been in and out of hospital since his diagnosis in June 1993, when he collapsed on the sideline of a New Jersey all-star game at Giants Stadium. He was scheduled to be the head coach of the North team when this year's game, dedicated in his honor, is played on June 29 at Rutgers Stadium. Instead, his son,

Louis Jr., will represent him. Mr. Rettino amassed 216 victories during his 31-year career at schools in Hudson, Somerset and Union counties, the 10th highest total in New Jersey history. His overall record was 216-56-6. His record at Union was 171 victories, 23 losses and 5 ties, and 7-2 in his last season.

When he was first hospitalized in 1993, Mr. Rettino missed two games before coming back to lead the Farmers to an undefeated season (11-0) and the state championship. While he was out, he still watched practice film from his hospital bed.

Members of the Union team showed up at his house in Westfield after he missed the first game. "I asked them to stop by if we won," he said at the time. "So when I turned the corner and saw those two yellow buses parked on the side of the street, I knew that we won. All the kids piled out onto the lawn. It was really a memorable moment."

A member of the Villanova (Pa.) University Hall of Fame, he was drafted as a linebacker by the Packers in 1963. He also played briefly with the Baltimore Colts before a knee injury ended his career with the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League. Before taking over as coach at Union in 1977, Mr. Rettino worked at his high school alma mater, St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City, and also coached at Marist



Lou Rettino

Kim Garnick, 1993

in Bayonne, Memorial in West New York, Somerville and Elizabeth.

As a player, he was a member of four state-championship teams at St. Peter's Prep from 1955-58.

It did not take Mr. Rettino long to turn Union's program into a national power, and the school won its first title under him in 1978. In addition, the Farmers finished in the top six nationally on six occasions in the USA Today ranking. His program produced more than 40 Division I college players.

"He had an inner strength that willed victory and it transcended to his players," said Fred Stengel, who served as Mr. Rettino's assistant before becoming Bergen Catholic's head coach in 1988. "I learned more from him in 11 years than I would in a lifetime with anyone else."

In addition to his son, Louis Jr., 24, Mr. Rettino is survived by his wife of 32 years, Elvira, and two daughters, Susan Rettino, 29, and Tracey Mochmal, 27.

J. D. Miller, Music Producer, 73; Wrote 'Honky-Tonk Angels'

CROWLEY, La., March 24 (AP) — J. D. Miller, whose song "It Wasn't God Who Made Honky-Tonk Angels" helped open the way to stardom for women in country music, died on Saturday at Lourdes Hospital of Lafayette, La. He was 73.

The cause was complications from recent quadruple-bypass surgery, said Freddie Pate, a studio musician at Mr. Miller's MTE Studios here.

Mr. Miller's "Honky-Tonk Angels" made Kitty Wells the first female superstar of country music, with the first No. 1 song and million-seller by a female vocalist.

The song was a response to Hank Thompson's 1952 hit "The Wild Side of Life." The chorus of the Thompson song went:

*I didn't know God made honky-tonk angels
I might have known you'd never make a wife —
But you gave up the only one that ever loved you
And went back to the wild side of life.*

Mr. Miller heard it on the radio and wrote an answer:

It wasn't God who made honky-tonk angels ...

Too many times married men think they're still single.

That has caused many a good girl to go wrong.

It's a shame that all blame is on us women.

Miss Wells, who had been known for religious songs, recorded Mr. Miller's song for Decca on May 5, 1952. Its success opened the way for women to set themes in country music and to perform on their own rather than as members of singing families.

Mr. Miller's MTE Studios were also influential, giving the songwriter Jimmy C. Newman and the Cajun fiddler Doug Kershaw their starts, and recording part of Paul Simon's 1986 "Graceland" album.

Mr. Miller started as a road musician, touring Louisiana and neighboring states as the electric mandolin player for the Four Aces.

"They didn't have electricity in a lot of these places," Mr. Pate said. "They would jack up the back wheels of the car and run a belt to the generator and let the car run to get juice."

Mr. Miller is survived by his wife, Georgia, a daughter, 4 sons and 10 grandchildren.

Louis Pataki, 83, Father of Governor

Louis Pataki, a former assistant postmaster in Peekskill, N.Y., who saw his son elected to the highest office in the state, died on Saturday at a nursing home in Hudson, N.Y., from complications following a heart attack. He was 83.

Mr. Pataki, father of Gov. George E. Pataki, began his career with the Peekskill Post Office as a letter carrier during the Depression and, over the next 30 years, rose to become assistant postmaster before retiring.

Mr. Pataki simultaneously helped manage his family's farm in Peekskill. He served as Peekskill's first Environmental Commissioner and as chairman of the Peekskill Bicentennial Celebration. But his greatest love was for the Peekskill Fire Department, with which he served as a volunteer for more than 50 years.

"No one cared more or did more for his family and community than our father," Governor Pataki said yesterday on behalf of himself and other family members. "We owe everything to him and we will miss him enormously."

Mr. Pataki's volunteer work as a firefighter briefly became an issue in his son's gubernatorial campaign when it was disclosed that he had been placed in a nursing home for indigent volunteer firefighters despite the fact that he had once had considerable financial assets, stemming from the farm, that were transferred to his sons.

In addition to Governor Pataki, Mr. Pataki is survived by his wife, Peggy; another son, Louis Jr., of Norwalk, Conn.; a brother, George, of San Raphael, Calif.; a sister, Zelma Senk of Rochester, and six grandchildren.

Look for Science Times on Tuesday.

Vaclav Nelhybel, 76, a Czech Composer

SCRANTON, Pa., March 24 (Reuters) — Vaclav Nelhybel, a composer born in Czechoslovakia who was a musical director of Radio Free Europe during the 1950's and composer in residence at the University of Scranton, died on Friday at a hospital here. He was 76 and lived in Fleetville, Pa.

A university news release said the cause of death was not yet determined.

Mr. Nelhybel, a native of Polanka, Czechoslovakia, was a co-founder of the World Premiere Composition Series at the university in 1984. He studied at Prague University, the University of Fribourg in Switzerland and the Prague Conservatory and began his career in 1939 as a

conductor at Radio Prague and at the City Theater of Prague. After the Second World War, he was named conductor and composer in residence at Swiss Radio and a lecturer at the University of Fribourg.

From 1950 to 1957, he was the musical director at Radio Free Europe in Munich, West Germany.

Mr. Nelhybel came to the United States in 1957 and became a citizen in 1962. He published more than 400 works, especially for wind instruments, including operas and orchestral works, and he conducted widely.

His survivors include his wife of 39 years, Dorothea, a native of Frankfurt, Germany; a daughter, Jana, of Washington, and two sons, Christopher, of White Haven, Pa., and Pavel, of Prague.

Deaths

Arfer, Dorothy
Brown, Pearl
Bullens-Crewe, Jessie
Dumont, Paul
Fink, Florence
Fischer, Jack
Fleischman, Dorothy
Gobelman, David
Glickman, Freda

Deaths

KRONISH—Robbi Leon, the officers and staff of State of Israel Bonds deeply mourn the passing of Robbi Leon Kronish, one of the original leaders of our organization whose great spiritual stature and passion for the rebuilding of Israel inspired us all. He will be sorely missed. His spirit and achievements will live on through the generations of men and women whose lives he enhanced. Our heartfelt condolences to his widow, Lillian, and to the entire family.

Deaths

MAN—David J., died of Mary Manning Walsh Home on Saturday, March 23, 1996, 23,789 days after his birth in 1972. Mr. Mann was an actor in the 1920's, an advertising executive, served in the Army in 1943, and always had a positive attitude toward life and a happy, usually humorous word for his neighbors. He was an active member of St. Jean Baptiste parish at 184 E. 76th St. where a Funeral Mass will be held at 11 AM on Wednesday, March 27th. He is survived by his first cousin, Mrs. Irene Lucienne of Uniondale, N.Y., Mrs. Sally V. Pynes of Eugene, Ore., Mrs. Rosemary Westbrook of Cottage Grove, Ore., and Mrs. Ruth Blackwell of Orville, Ga.

Deaths

RASHKIN—Benjamin. Beloved husband of the late Tillie. Devoted father of David and Joanne, Leonard and Marilyn and Harriet Weber. Loving grandfather and great-grandfather of Jennifer, Jamie, Aaron, Lori, Richard, Adam, Elise and Joclyn. Cherished friend of Georgia. Dear brother of Milton. Services Monday, 1 PM, at "Gutterman's", 175 Long Beach Road, Rockville Centre.

ARFER—Dorothy, on March 23, 1996. Beloved wife of Martin. Loving mother of Judith, Susan and Joshua and mother-in-law of William. Adored Nana of Miranda, Jesse and Molly. Services Tuesday, March 26, 11 AM, at "The Riverside," 76 St. and Amsterdam Ave.

BROWN—Pearl (Simon), widow of the late Morris, March 23, at her home in Palm Beach, in her 100th year. Beloved by her family beyond measure.

BULLENS-CREWE — Jessie Danielle, in Portland, ME, on March 23, 1996. Eleven years old, at Cumberland, ME, formerly of Westport and Weston, CT. Daughter of Dan and Cindy Bullens-Crewe. Sister of Reid Bullens-Crewe. Granddaughter of Richard and Mary Jane Bullens. A celebration of Jessie's life will be held at 2 PM on Thursday at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 425 Congress St., Portland, ME. Expressions of sympathy may be made in the form of donations to the Maine Children's Cancer Program, 295 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. For information call Hav & Peabody, Portland, ME.

DUMONT—Paul. Loyal friend—life-giving force — courageous man, I will miss you.

FINK—Florence, on March 23, 1996, of Plainville, Long Island. Beloved wife of Albert. Devoted mother of Jeffrey, Marsha Schwartz, Jesse and Ralph. Also survived by seven loving grandchildren. Services today, 10 AM, at "Gutterman's", 8000 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury, Long Island.

FISCHER—Jack, died on March 24, 1996, at the age of 87. Survived by beloved wife Ado, children Susan and Henry, and brothers Mandel, William and Theodore. Loving brother of the late Edith Sobie. Graveside services at Beth Moses Cemetery at 1 PM on Tuesday, March 26th.

HANSEN—Geraldine (nee Wells). Beloved wife of the late Henry E. Loving mother of Peter H. Adored grandmother of Christian. Fond mother-in-law of Katherine. Devoted sister of Eileen Zierer. Reposing at the Greenwich Village Funeral Home, 199 Bleecker St., NYC. Funeral Mass, Tues., 9:30 AM, at Our Lady of Pompei Church, interment, Ferncliff Cemetery.

LITVAK—Abraham (AI), Of Coconut Creek, FL. Formerly of Buffalo, NY. Died after a long illness on March 23, 1996. He was 82. He was a remarkable man. He was a devoted father of Harold and Shelia, Boris and Elaine and Steven and Nancy. Honored grandfather of Michael and Maria, Cassie, Liz, Andy, Robb and Jesse. Great-grandfather of Liana, Al and Sally were married for 62 years. He was a remarkable man. He was a devoted father of Harold and Shelia, Boris and Elaine and Steven and Nancy. Honored grandfather of Michael and Maria, Cassie, Liz, Andy, Robb and Jesse. Great-grandfather of Liana, Al and Sally were married for 62 years. He was a remarkable man. He was a devoted father of Harold and Shelia, Boris and Elaine and Steven and Nancy. Honored grandfather of Michael and Maria, Cassie, Liz, Andy, Robb and Jesse. Great-grandfather of Liana, Al and Sally were married for 62 years. He was a remarkable man.

LUBOW—Rose (nee Bibliowitz), of Jamaica Estates, NY, on March 23, 1996. Beloved wife of Simon. Devoted mother of Robert and Eric and mother-in-law of Judith. Cherished grandmother of Gary, Jeffrey and Kathy. Dear sister of Jess and the late Louis and Max, and sister-in-law of Service and the late Elita and Roberto. Loving aunt of many nieces and nephews. Funeral service, Monday, 12 Noon, at Riverside-Nassau, North Choptes, 55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck.

MAANSEVIT — Amy Stratzer. Passed away peacefully on March 22, 1996. Extraordinary wife, mother, daughter and sister. Survived by husband Bruce, children Lauren and Margot, parents Florence and Martin Stratzer and brother Stuart. Services at Congregation Etz Chai, 1000 1st St., Bridgeport, CT, on Tuesday at 1:00 PM. (203) 336-1858. Contributions may be made in Amy's name to the Marrow Foundation, 400 7th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004.

MAINTZ—Gertrude. Beloved mother of Sue. Mother-in-law of Jay. Cherished grandmother of Beth, Carol and Richard. Great-grandmother of Nicole. Loving sister of Rose. Dear aunt and great-aunt of many nieces and nephews. Interment at Mount Nebo Cemetery, Miami, Florida on March 24, 1996.

MC GUIRE—Joan G. (nee: Gilhane) of New Vernon, NJ, formerly of Short Hills, NJ, and Pelham Manor, NY, on March 23, 1996. Wife of William B. McGuire and the late Ralph R. Hyland. Mother of Jo Elinor, R. Hyland of Underhill, VT, James C. Hyland of Binghamton, NY, Keith P. Hyland of Branchburg, NJ, and Grant W. McGuire of New Vernon, NJ. Sister of Robert Gilhane of Jamesburg, NJ, Blanche Gilhane of Bradenton, FL, and Alice Glasford of Nashville, TN. Also survived by five grandchildren. The funeral will be held at the Hopping Funeral Home of Litchfield, NJ, 145 East Mt. Pleasant Ave., on Wednesday at 9 AM. The Funeral Mass will be offered in Christ the King Church, New Vernon, NJ, at 10:30 AM. Entombment Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Mausoleum, East Hanover, NJ. Visitation Monday, 7-9 PM, and Tuesday, 2-4 and 7-9 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Barnabas Development Foundation, Box 676, South Station, Livingston, NJ 07039.

MINTZ—Samuel H., on March 24, 1996. Beloved husband of Ida. Loving father of Harold G. Mintz and Myra Eisen. Cherished grandfather and great-grandfather. Graveside services Tuesday, 1 PM, at Sharon Gardens Cemetery, Valhalla, NY. For information contact "The Riverside," 212-362-6600.

NEUWAAN—Miriam ("Mimi") suddenly on March 20, 1996. Service today, 9:30 AM at "The Riverside," 76th Street and Amsterdam Ave.

PIEGL—Lottie. Congregation Ohav Zedek, Belle Harbor, mourns the passing of its esteemed member, Mrs. Lottie Spiegel. May the bereaved family be consoled among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem. Dr. Jacob Reiner, Rabbi Moe Karosh, President

ROBERTSON—Nathan. Devoted husband of Ruth (nee Nemerson). Beloved father of Donna and Al Silverman, Russell and Shelley. Loving grandfather of Ron, Eric, Lori, Brian, Adam, Larry and Noel. Brother of Morris, Joe, Rose, Walter, Eva, Schwartz, Anna, Edward and Frieda Braunstein. Services Monday, 12 noon, at I. J. Morris, Inc., 46 Greenwich St., Hempstead.

ROBERTSON—Nathan. The Board of Governors and members of Cold Spring Country Club deeply mourn the recent passing of our past President and longtime member. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to his wife, Ruth, and the entire family.

SOSNICK—Harry. Play on, old friend. "The music that you made below is now the music of the spheres." Dorothy and Bill Benner

SPIEGEL—Lottie. Congregation Ohav Zedek, Belle Harbor, mourns the passing of its esteemed member, Mrs. Lottie Spiegel. May the bereaved family be consoled among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem. Dr. Jacob Reiner, Rabbi Moe Karosh, President

WRIGHT—John Winthrop. Memorial service is to be held at 2 P.M. on Friday, March 29, 1996 at The Quack Center, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT. Donations in Mr. Wright's memory may be made to The School for Ethical Education, 1000 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT. 06604.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF DEATHS MAY BE TELEPHONED TO (212) 354-3900 UNTIL 5:30 P.M. FOR WEEKDAY EDITIONS, UNTIL 2:30 P.M. ON SATURDAY FOR SUNDAY EDITION, OUT-OF-N.Y.C. TOLL FREE 800-458-5522

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