



Leon Komoroski '37



Leon Komoroski has been an integral part of the Bay Shore-Brightwaters community and its schools for more than seventy-five years. Having completed his requirements for graduation in three and one-half years and having graduated as valedictorian, as a senior Leon served on a student committee that visited neighboring schools to get ideas of what might be included in what is now part of the present high school.

While in high school, Leon managed the baseball team for one year and then earned varsity letters in baseball and basketball for three years. He then spent two post-graduate years at Bay Shore in order to take the courses he needed to satisfy the requirements for a college entrance diploma. He was awarded a four-year N.Y. State scholarship and Columbia College accepted him as a student and awarded him the balance needed to cover tuition costs. He “brown bagged” it for the four years he studied for his B.A., commuting daily from Bay Shore to Columbia in uptown Manhattan, and then repeated the trek for another year after World War II when he attended Columbia Teacher’s College to earn his M.A. ('46 TC) During the war, Leon served aboard an attack transport in the Pacific as the electronics officer.

In the spring of 1947 he was offered, and accepted, a teaching job at Bay Shore and was appointed the Administrative Assistant to High School Principal Warde McLaughlin. He served in this position until 1950 when he requested an assignment to teach mathematics. He served in that capacity until he retired in July 1983. It was also in July 1950, that Leon married Mildred Maasch, '38. They have two children, Judith '74, and Robert, '78.

Besides his classroom assignments, Leon was active in the athletics program as a baseball coach of ninth grade and varsity teams. He served on the Section XI League Placement Committee and then was its chairman for two years. He also was a varsity level official in football, soccer, and wrestling and had been assigned to play-off contests in all three sports.

In the community, Leon has served as an usher at Saint Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church, was treasurer of the Quarterback Club (now the Bay Shore Athletics Sponsors) and one year was named as its Man of the Year. He was a player/manager on baseball and basketball town teams, which represented the Bay Shore Braves, the Bay Shore Fire Department, and the Knights of Columbus, and the American Legion Post 365.

He continues to live in Brightwaters and until a few years ago when a health condition limited his activity, he had been a regular fan at many of the high school games.