



Irving S. Black

September 14, 1930 - July 14, 2010

Irving S. Black, 79, of New Britain, loving husband of Virginia DeAngelus Black for 56 years, passed away Wednesday July 14, 2010 at the Hospital of Central CT in New Britain. Born in Providence, RI, son of the late Irving and Waity Cole Black, he lived in New Britain since 1953. Irv was a 1948 graduate of Mount Pleasant High School in Providence RI and Boston University in 1952. He received his Masters from Boston University in 1956. He taught physical education and coached Track and Field and Cross-Country at New Britain High School for 35 years and then coached track at Trinity College for 20 years - retiring in 2008. In April 1992, the track complex at Willow Brook Park in New Britain was named in his honor. He was the founder of North East Sports Timing Service. Irv was a member of St. Maurice Church, was a member of the New Britain Sports Hall of Fame, the Connecticut High School Coaches Hall of Fame and the National High School Hall of Fame.

Besides his wife Ginny, he is survived by his children Carole Black Cohen, MD and her husband Roy Cohen of Burlington; Elizabeth Black and her husband Randall Bean of Stonington, CT and Needham, MA and Kathy Black of Kensington. Loving grandfather to Lindsay and Kate Piotrowicz of Kensington and Matthew and Christopher Bean. Also survived by his brother and sister-in-law Lee and Sue Black of Weekee Wachee, Fla. and a sister-in-law Irene Munroe of Providence, RI and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family and friends are invited to go directly to a Mass of Christian Burial Saturday 11 AM at St. Maurice Church, 100 Whitman Rd., New Britain. A reception will immediately follow at the church hall. At Irv's request, there are no calling hours. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his honor to the Helen and Harry Gray Cancer Center, c/o Hartford Hospital, 85 Retreat Ave., Hartford, CT 06016. The Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ To the Family of Mr Black ,please accept our sincerest condolences.I had the good fortune to be on the NBHS Track Team when Mr Black first came on the scene. The lifelong lessons I learned from Mr Black applied to so many other phases of life .He took a moribund track program and with his character,will,enthusiasm and ingenuity quickly "built" it into a winner .Thinking out of the box" is the phrase that reminds me often of Mr Black. Midwinter workouts on cleared off tennis court and school hallways quickly became the norm.Mr Black followed this by getting invitations from nearby colleges to winter work out in their field houses and compete against their freshmnen teams.He devoted the same interest to all his athletes along the spectrum wanting very much for everyone to succeed. Being fellow Italians we had much fun together especially when waging our ferocious Morra duels for the team. I still today follow Mr Black's examples as a volunteer long distance Coach and Trainer.I've found mall parking garages to be a great place to get in hill and stamina training during winter. When I'm asked how did I ever come up with such an idea...???My response starts with a grin and a Thank You to Mr Black.. Thank You for Everything..You will always be remembered.
Jimmy Alfieri
NBHS 55 Track Captain

Jimmy Alfieri - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ To Virginia and the entire Black family,
It is with deep sadness upon hearing of the death of Irv, I extend my deepest condolences to your entire family.
Sincerely yours,
Paul A. Shaker, Jr.

Paul A. Shaker, Jr. - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Coach Black has made a lasting impression on so many of his students. Forty Five years after high school he was always "Mr. Black" or "Coach". He taught us respect, for others as well as ourselves. We will miss him.

Rick Drezek - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ My deepest sympathy to you and your family. Irv was a special man who had tremendous passion for track and field. He has helped me run various track and field meets and championships since the mid 70's and I will truly miss him. I will always have special memories of Irv and may he rest in peace.

Ken Klatka - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Ginny and Kathy,
Was so sorry to hear of your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Marilyn Bissoni - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ Meets won't be the same without Irv but he left a lasting legacy that will always be remembered. No one who competes in track in CT can escape the impact he has had. He helped make the sport better for everyone and will be missed. My prayers go out to his family and to the many many who loved him.

Marty Ogden - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Coach Black was so supportive of his students. Making sure that those who were unable to buy "travel dress" or afford haircuts, or look for college scholarships got what help was needed. I remember the many times winter track practiced in the lower hallway of the old high school: look out when you exited the music room! Guys whizzed by to the sound of Coach Black's voice filling the entire length of that hall!

My love to his family.

Jane Reynolds Pallokat NBHS '63

Jane Reynolds Pallokat'63 - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

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My love to his family.

Jane Reynolds Pallokat NBHS '63

Jane Reynolds Pallokat'63 - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Truly sorry for your loss, Irv never stopped coaching. He always spoke with such passion for sports, coaching and timing.

Bill Clark - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I pray that the Lord provide you with sufficient grace to endure the sad days ahead, but that a lifetime of happy memories will help the Black family endure.

Condolences on behalf of HPHS Track Alumni, many unforgettable races and title battles between our teams over the years.

Rest in Peace, Coach.

Dan Howe - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Irv taught me more about appreciating the moment that you are in than anyone else I know. I will truly miss him but he will always be a part of me.

Dave Jewett

David Jewett - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ My memories of Mr. Black are at the Big "B" track meet. My oldest brother and I were both throwers from Fitch High School in Groton, CT. Coach Black had a resounded voice that kept a track meet on time. You knew the meet would be run correctly if Coach Black was there. He was known for talking with all the athletes and congratulating those who did well and encouraging those that struggled that day. Track and Field in Connecticut has lost a giant that everyone who was involved in the sport respected.

Patty Borden O'Brian

Fitch High School Class of 85

Patty Borden O'Brian - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ So sorry for your loss. He was a mentor to so many children, including us. There are not many people of his caliber left in this world and he will be missed deeply. May he rest in peace.

Seb and Joe Caruso - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ I was saddened to hear of the passing of Irving Black. He was a man with a purpose and a mission. He was a P.E. instructor when I was there 1962-1965. He sure would have made a good DI because when he was giving directions his voice would reverberate from the walls of the gym and we couldn't understand him. To his family I give sincere condolences and remember that Irving is in Heaven and even now talking with our God.

Ralph Gantz - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Deepest sympathies to your family from myself and all of the family of Bob Kennedy, former Track Coach at University of Connecticut. Irv was a special man to our family and all Track Families at the high school and college level. His resounding voice could be heard at every meet and we knew everything would be done right because he was there. We have special memories of him. We celebrate his life.

sharon Kennedy Hollay - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Irv will be missed. A great human being who has taught us all so much. I will always remember your great jokes and your mentoring.

James Thompson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Willowbrook Park and CIAC Track and Field will never be the same without Irv. His memory will make every hammer thrower and every hammer coach stand prouder.

John Copeland - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ WE WILL MISS IRV SO MUCH
OUR EVERY DAY TALKS ABOUT THE
YANKEES
HE WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS

GLENN & SHARON BESSONI - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Larger than life, heart of gold, George Suito said it all. A true legend.

Jerry Gravel, Westfield State College Coach Retired

jerry gravel - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ My sympathy to you Ginny, your children, and grandchildren at Irv's passing.
Numbers 6:24-26

A. Wayne Nakoneczny-Southington HS - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM