



Robert L. "Pop" Hayden

November 16, 1908 - July 19, 2009

ADRIAN – Robert L. (Pop) Hayden, 100, died Sunday, July 19, 2009. He was born November 16, 1908 in Durand, Michigan, the son of Lewis A. and Leah A. (Johnson) Hayden.

Bob lived for a brief period in Owosso, Michigan and in 1912 the family moved to Elberta, Michigan. He graduated from Elberta High School in 1926 and from Central State Teachers College at Mt. Pleasant in 1931 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and later a M.A. Degree from the University of Michigan.

In October of 1932, he married Zona E. Duncan of Traverse City.

He started teaching in the Elberta Public Schools in 1932 and was employed there until 1935. Then he moved to Adrian and was employed in the Adrian School System until he retired in July of 1974.

While in Adrian he taught Social Science and coached basketball, baseball and assisted in football in the high school for about twelve years, followed by a period as a Counselor-Assistant Principal in the high school. Then a period of twenty years, as High School Principal, and he continued with the remainder of his tenure at the Board of Education.

He was the last Principal of Senior High School (Grades 10-11-12) and the first Principal of the current High School. After leaving the High School for the new position at the Board of Education, while there 7 years, he noted the handwriting on the wall, that all school employees were no longer employed after the age of sixty-five. He began to think retirement. Then, on July 1st,

1974, with some other employees too old to continue to work there, he retired for a different way of living. No more school work – a vacation during his bonus on longevity – family, this and that, and the program of Mother Nature. He liked Adrian (home since 1935 on McKenzie St.), the people – what the city offered.

He was active in the local Rotary for over fifty-seven years – a feeling of responsibility to society.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Zona, sons, John R. Hayden and Steve L. Hayden, sister, Mary Alice Green and a brother-in-law, Curtis Green. Survivors include daughter-in-laws Mary V. Hayden of Lansing, Nancy (Hayden) Cochran and her husband Del of Adrian. Grandson, John (JR.) Hayden of Adrian. Granddaughters Lynn (Cochran) Sager, and Kristen Cochran.

The funeral service for Bob will be on Thursday, July 23rd at 11 a.m. at Wagley Funeral Home. Friends may visit the family on Wednesday, July 22nd from 1-4 p.m. & 6-8 p.m. Burial will take place at Lenawee Hills Memorial Park at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the local Alzheimer's Association or the local charity of your choice. You may also send condolences or sign the register book at www.wagleyfuneralhome.com. Envelopes are available at the Wagley Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **22**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Robert L. "Pop" Hayden

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ I was 'MR HAYDEN'S " ASST. PRINCIPAL From 1965-67- it was my 1st administrative position- what I learned from him would carry me for my entire 41 year education career. He was so supportive of a very young beginner and had great caring and concern for my family- May the Blessings of the Lord be with him.##imported-begin##Ron Rohlman##imported-end##

November 30, 2010 at 09:53 PM



“ The Vigland family will always remember Bob, Zona and their family. That of course includes his parents who were wonderful individuals. They were a special family that I personally felt very close to. I hope that Bob, (Vic) Coon, (Doc) and Chuck, (Bull) alias VDB have a great reunion in that happy Hunting Ground. I trust that I can speak for my brother Eric and my sister Linda.
God Bless
Roger Vigland##imported-begin##Roger Vigland##imported-end##

August 03, 2009 at 01:28 PM



“ *Mr. Hayden's family,*

Pop was a wonderful gentleman that had a wish come true to live to be 100! What a blessing he was to this community. I remember he would bring me roses to the FH from when Zona passed away and quite awhile after. He will never be forgotten.

May God Bless,

Debbie##imported-begin##Debbie Dillon (former Secretary for BEW FH##imported-end##

July 22, 2009 at 07:52 PM



“ *As I left Adrian shortly after my graduation, Pop Hayden will always remain in my memory as young, vibrant and handsome, sort of like Cary Grant. One of those idols which stay with us always. Donna Lou Harris##imported-begin##Donna Lou Harris Sheffield##imported-end##*

July 22, 2009 at 02:03 PM



“ If high school students today and tomorrow had "Pop" Hayden as their principal, they would learn respect for themselves, their friends, and their teachers. He guided and encouraged us and we became a generation of individuals who believed our country the greatest, our future bright and dreams could be fulfilled. He will be remembered by many of us, and will always be a part of our our memories of Adrian High School.

Maxine Isaacson Hall

Class of 1954##imported-begin##Maxine isaacson Hall##imported-end##

July 22, 2009 at 01:11 PM



“ Dear Nancy, Del, and family,
Despite a heavy heart, I cannot help but smile with memories that fall back more than 50 years with the Hayden family...including Pop. "Hewes and Hayden" not difficult to understand that John and I sat in front of and behind each other for our entire lifetime at school. Homeroom teachers knew us well..we teased each other unmercifully. Our families also knew each other, and those years of growing up, always included the Haydens. Pop was always the "gold standard" for our schools, and his gifts to both children and community will live on forever. He and Zona embodied the kindness and generosity of a bygone era.

With great affection, Jeanne (Hewes) Huyser##imported-begin##Jeanne (Hewes) Huyser##imported-end##

July 21, 2009 at 10:11 PM



“ Blessings on one who advanced my education career with his understanding "helping hand".
Powers

July 21, 2009 at 04:48 PM



“ I graduated from AHS in 1963. I remember Mr. Hayden as a gracious, caring educator and mentor of each student body that he guided and molded. It was a privilege to have known him; my sincere condolences to his family.
joanne (clough) guinn

July 21, 2009 at 02:01 PM



“ JR, my thoughts are with you! -Vicki
Wood

July 21, 2009 at 08:30 AM



“ Nancy, Del, J.R., Lynne, and Christen,

So sorry to read of "Pop Hayden's" passing. He lead a wonderful full life and touched a lot of heart's.

*I am sending my heartfelt condolences, love and prayers to each and everyone of the Hayden family. Paula
Martek*

July 21, 2009 at 08:10 AM



“ Although my father had known "Pop" for over 70 years, I was fortunate to officially meet him about six weeks ago when my dad became a resident at Grand Court. Pop coached my dad at Adrian High School in the 1930's and they remained friends over the years. The first night my dad was at Grand Court, they spent the evening in Pop's room, watching the Final Red Wing hockey game and reminiscing for several hours. Dad was happy to spend time with Pop and felt welcomed by his new neighbor. They enjoyed many meals together and often lingered in the dining room after everyone else had left, remembering the "good old days." I was privileged to join them on several occasions. Pop was one of the best story tellers I've ever met and I learned so much in those six short weeks about my dad, the "student" and Pop, the "coach." Although I didn't know Pop nearly as long as many others, he made an impression on me that I will never forget. He lived his long life to the fullest, enjoyed every day, and treated people with kindness and respect. At age 100, his sense of humor and ability to converse intelligently were in tact. Thanks, Pop, for the wonderful memories you gave our father and entire family. You will be missed by all who knew you, including those who just met you a few weeks ago.##imported-begin##Susan Arbaugh##imported-end##

July 20, 2009 at 07:26 PM



“ *Your journey has been long, and now must end. Your life has been full and rich with love.*

Your friends have been many, and warm and kind; enriched by the example you've left behind.

Go with joy to a better place and a new beginning. Go in peace and know that you've made a difference along the way.

Go in comfort, for all you've been, remains to stay.

To Adrian's Best and Longest-Serving Rotarian Bob Hayden. Thank you for your friendship and for your service. You will be greatly missed.

Patty Clark, IPP

Adrian Noon Rotary Club###imported-begin##Patty Clark###imported-end##

July 20, 2009 at 03:14 PM