



Charles Whitbred Jr. ***CLASS OF 1944***

Charles Whitbred Jr. was born in 1929 and grew up at 528 Broadway Avenue in Saint Paul Park. Growing up, he played football, basketball, hockey and baseball. His career as a Park High Indian is highlighted by his contribution to the football team as an offensive half-back and defensive linebacker. He was the leading scorer for the team which was undefeated and never scored upon.

In addition, he was the leadoff hitter on the baseball team, played centerfield, and went 6 for 6 in one memorable game.

After high school he joined the US Marines and served 3 years. After serving in the Marine Corp, he was one of the first people to be hired at 3M Chemolite. He married Delores Karg and they raised their family in St. Paul Park. Charles joined the St. Paul Park Fire Department in the early 1950's and helped to develop the department. In 1960 he started the first youth football program for Saint Paul Park and Newport. He was also one of the organizers of the first youth baseball program in St. Paul Park. In 1962 he had a fatal heart attack while fighting the fire that destroyed Applebaums in Cottage Grove. The fire occurred in the evening after a full work day at 3M. He would never return home to his wife and three children; his youngest was born one month after his death. Charles Jr. had four children, Charles III, Pamela, Laura and Charlene. His legacy lives on in his 9 grandchildren who all played sports at Park and Woodbury. Several went on to be teachers, coaches, firefighters or work with people with disabilities.