



William K. Blood

January 1, 1

William K. Blood, 63, a Merrimack Valley sports icon, died Wednesday at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton following a brief illness.

Bill was born in Lawrence on March 21, 1949, the son of Charlotte (Cohen) and the late Albert Blood.

He was a lifelong resident of Methuen and a graduate of Tenney High School, class of 1966. Following high school, Mr. Blood went to Northeastern University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business, later receiving his Masters Degree in Education at Lesley University.

For many years, his smiling face could be seen about the halls of Methuen Public Schools and on the fields and gyms in town. He was a consummate educator who dedicated his professional life to the town he grew up in. Retired recently, he was still coaching track at Phillips Academy in Andover.

As a student at Tenney High School, Bill excelled in their football program and was inducted into the Methuen High School Hall of Fame for his track, baseball, football and basketball coaching contributions. He was also a member of the Massachusetts State Track and Cross-Country Coaches Association and MAHPERD. In addition, he was also the tournament director for the Bruce Blood Memorial Basketball Tournament for thirty years and a lifetime member of the Methuen Youth Basketball Association. When not coaching sports, he enjoyed reading, cooking, golfing and following Boston sports. Although an avid sports enthusiast, his family always came first.

Mr. Blood is survived by his wife of twenty years, Debra (Blazok) Blood; his son, Jason Larocque and his wife Melissa Larocque of Washington, DC; his mother, Charlotte Blood of Methuen; his sisters, Nancy Murphy and her husband Robert of Bradford and Susan Nicholson and her husband Richard of West Newbury and many nephews, nieces, and great nephews and great nieces. Bill was predeceased by his brother, Bruce L. Blood who

died in 1982.

A Funeral Mass will take place on Saturday morning at 10:30 AM at St. Monica's Church in Methuen with interment to follow in Elmwood Cemetery, Methuen. Friends will be warmly received in the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen from 3 - 7 PM on Friday.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Methuen Youth Basketball Association, c/o Steve Saba, 15 Chippy Ln., Methuen, MA 01844 or the American Heart Association, PO Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241.

For directions or to share an online condolence with the family, please visit us online at <http://www.pollardfuneralhome.com> or go to Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home on Facebook.