

## **Bluffton News-Banner, Wells County, IN; Saturday, May 6, 2006**

Former Bluffton High School basketball coach Robert C. "Bob" Dro, 87, died Thursday evening, May 4, 2006, in Indianapolis of complications of Alzheimer's disease.

Mr. Dro served in assistant and associate athletic director positions from 1957 to 1976 at Indiana University and retired from the university in 1984. He was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by two different Indiana governors and was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel by the governor of Kentucky.

Regarded as one of Indiana University's all-time athletic greats, he was a member of the Hoosiers' first national championship basketball team in 1940, and also starred in baseball. Following graduation, he played baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers organization and professional basketball with the former Indianapolis Kautsky's organization.

Mr. Dro served as basketball coach at Bluffton during the 1946-47 and 1947-48 seasons, and was a past red coat recipient as the former Parlor City Country Club's "Celebrity of the Year." He was a U.S. Navy veteran with service in the Pacific during World War II. Born on Oct. 12, 1918, in Berne, he was a son of Ervin and Ida Dro. His marriage in 1941 was to E. Jean Weber, who survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Robert W. Dro of Kansas City, Mo., and Daniel W. Dro, M.D. of Carmel, Ind.; four grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Graveside services are at 2 p.m. Sunday at MRE Cemetery, Berne. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Indiana University Foundation, Bloomington.

Preferred memorials are to the Indiana University Foundation in the name of a scholarship in Mr. Dro's name. Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home, Berne, is in charge of the arrangements.

**Same article appears in Huntington Herald-Press (IN) - Monday, May 8, 2006**