



Catholic Charities CYO Athletics Remembers Bud Sewell

It is with deep sadness and fond memories that Catholic Charities CYO Athletics remembers **Wilbur “Bud” Sewell**. Bud began his path in 1961 at St. Emydius School, first as a custodian, and then as a coach and Athletic Director. His dedication and commitment to serving our youth was unconditional. “Bud will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him,” said Kevin Finn, Catholic Charities CYO Athletics Director.

Bud’s “open gym” policy at St. Emydius drew kids from all over the neighborhood. The gym’s friendly environment helped build bridges among an ethnically-diverse population in the 1960’s. As his reputation for hospitality grew, Friday nights at St. Emydius became a popular stopover for CYO coaches and referees on their way home from other games.

Bud served on the CYO Athletics Board from 1968—1974, serving as Chairman in 1974. He also helped organize a CYO Referee Association, training referees at St. Emydius Gym—several of whom have gone on to referee at the high school and college level.

In 1975, Bud left St. Emydius and moved to Alaska with his wife and family of five. In 15 years at St. Emydius, Bud created a model for coaching and leadership in CYO that continues to be relevant today. Bud was inducted into the CYO Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013, where he stated, “I love to see kids participate, I always have. It’s close to my heart.”

Bud passed away on December 30, 2018 at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage, AK. A funeral Mass was held at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Anchorage on January 18, 2019.

His presence will always be felt throughout CYO Athletics, especially at the St. Emydius gym.

