

JAMES NELSON WOOD



James N. Wood passed away five years ago on February 17, 2018 in the Butler Memorial Hospital, Butler, PA, at 92 years old. Born January 28, 1926, he was the son of H. Nelson and Malinda Wood of Wilkesburg, PA. Jim was a 1943 graduate of Wilkesburg High School where he excelled as an athlete in football and track. Jim tied the then state record in the high hurdles at the 1944 Pennsylvania State

Track Meet, after taking first place his senior year at the WPIAL championships at Pitt Stadium in both the 120 and 220 hurdles.

Jim attended Penn State before enlistment in the U.S. Army in May of 1944, where he served in the 71st Infantry Division in WWII in Europe. Upon returning home, he resumed his college studies at Slippery Rock State College graduating in 1950 with a B.S. ED in Physical Education Teaching. Jim married Iris P. Turner of Butler, PA, (6/24/29-3/21/18) in 1951 and began teaching at Shadyside Academy and then Wilkesburg Jr. High, where he also coached football. Jim's love of football continued throughout his life, coaching several high school teams across Pennsylvania before his retirement years. After a long teaching career, Jim was then employed by INDSPEC in Petrolia, PA, until his retirement. He was a faithful fan of the Pitt Panthers until his death.

The Wood's were members of the First United Methodist Church, Butler, PA. Surviving are a daughter, Judith; and a son, David; five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

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