

## BILL TROTTER

**B**ILL PLAYED ALL THE SPORTS THEY OFFERED AT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL WHICH WAS football and basketball. Not only did he play them, but he played them extremely well. He was selected as All-County in both football and basketball as a junior. However, his best sport was baseball, which Martin did not offer. His promising high school career was cut short when he joined the U.S. Army at the end of his junior year to fight in WWII.

When in the military he continued his athletic career as he played service baseball for each post to which he was assigned. He returned home to begin work in the local Walker County mines where he was recruited to play centerfield on their semi-pro baseball teams. He starred on the teams at Gorgas, Sipsey and Dora. After his playing career was over, he found the next love of his life in coaching youth baseball all over the county. He formed little league teams at Gorgas, Boldo and Jasper. Bill truly loved people and especially young children. He was instrumental in building the first baseball field at Aldridge and developing a team there. He eventually settled on Jasper where he coached and dedicated his life to their little league program for the next 35 years.



Bill was a competitor in every area of his life. He was a member of the Jasper Sportsman Club where he was an outstanding hunter, participated in the World Championship Domino Tournament held in South Alabama, officiated basketball for a number of years, and was even elected as Jasper's Police Chief from 1958 - 1960. Two of Bill's greatest honors came late in life when he had the West Jasper Baseball Field named in his honor and when the city of Dora honored him with a "Bill Trotter Day" (to help with his fight against cancer).

Bill was married to the former Ellowayne Davis of Jasper and they had no children. They always felt that their nephew, Alan Trotter, was like a son to them and they helped to finance his college career, as well as support him in all areas of his life.