

## **Arthur H. Betts**

1930 - 2022



### **BORN**

1930

### **DIED**

2022

### **ABOUT**

[Gateway High School](#)  
[Wilkinsburg High School](#)

### **FUNERAL HOME**

[Burket-Truby Funeral Home Cremation & Alternative Services](#)  
421 Allegheny Avenue  
Oakmont, Pennsylvania

### **Arthur Betts Obituary**

Arthur Howard Betts died peacefully Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, with his three children by his side.

Art was born to Arthur and Kitty Betts May 21, 1930. He and his younger brother, Charles "Chuck" Betts enjoyed an idyllic childhood growing up on Negley Avenue in Turtle Creek. The family moved to Wilkinsburg in the 40's and Art participated in any

sport, sanctioned or playground, that he could.

He became a 3-sport star while there and was offered both basketball and football scholarships from many schools, including the University of Miami and University of North Carolina, which seemed very far away at the time.

So, he chose Penn State so that he could be close to the one and only love of his life, Marjorie Guy. Off he went to State College, getting his degree in education; joining Phi Delta Theta fraternity and playing football for Head Coach Rip Engle and a then, little-known assistant coach, Joe Paterno.

After his junior year, he and Marge decided it was time to marry and did so June 9, 1951. They had a cute little apartment on Fraser Street and Art finished his football career as co-captain of the Penn State Nittany Lions.

He remained a loyal Blue & White fan for the rest of his days. Art and Marge welcomed their eldest, Linda in 1952, but Art was off to Fort Benning, Ga., to prepare to serve his country. Fortunately, the Korean War ended in June of '53 and Art came back home.

He began his coaching career at Edgewood High School, where he coached multiple sports and handled athletic director duties until 1966. He was offered an opportunity to become head basketball coach and football defensive coordinator at his alma mater and moved on to Wilkinsburg High School.

His love for sports and coaching didn't stop at summer break; for years he ran the summer recreation program at Koenig Field in Edgewood. His children have wonderful memories of summer days tagging along with their Dad.

He also barnstormed in the off-season with the Pittsburgh Pirates, joining his high school rival and lifelong friend, Dick Groat, playing in charity basketball games.

In 1968, the Betts family moved to Gateway Drive in Monroeville and Art took the head basketball coach position at Gateway High School. He also became the right-hand man to the legendary Coach Pete Antimarino, serving as defensive coordinator until he retired in 1989.

Gateway was a force in the WPIAL during Art's tenure, winning five championships. Over the years, he has mentored hundreds of young men, and has maintained relationships with many. He motivated his players and students with his quick wit and humor.

His inherent kindness and decency was apparent to all who knew him. Art's fondness for sports was unmistakable, but his true love, his heart, his center, was his family. He spoke consistently how fortunate he felt in regards to his family.

He is survived by his three children, nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren: his

daughter, Linda (Bob Nelson, deceased); Bruce, Shawn, Taylor and Luke Nelson; Barry, Kim, Kameryn, Cassidy, Colton and Chase Nelson; Betsy, Scott and Landon Rosenthal; his daughter, Sandy (Jim Krentz), Kate, Armand, Tanner, Tillie and Winnie Tortorice; Justin, Nicole and Sergio Krentz; Jordan, Jamie and Cole Krentz; and his son, Bobby (Paulette); Brandon, Amanda and Bennett Arthur Betts, Francesca Betts and Nolan Betts.

In lieu of flowers, the family is suggesting donations be made to either Presbyterian Senior Care Home in Oakmont or the V Foundation in Art's name. As anyone who knows him can attest, Art did not like attention, second place or banquets. We are therefore honoring his requests with a quiet good-bye.

We are comforted knowing that he is back in the arms of his sweetheart, Margie. If you would like to share a story or commentary, please send an email to [CoachArtBetts@gmail.com](mailto:CoachArtBetts@gmail.com).

We are planning to make a compilation for his great-grandchildren. Arrangements are entrusted to BURKET-TRUBY FUNERAL HOME CREMATION & ALTERNATIVE SERVICES INC., Oakmont.



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