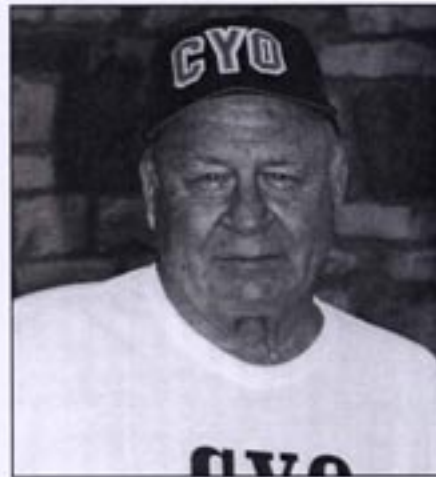


## Volunteer Junior Football League Award

### • John (Jake) Wiciak •

John (Jake) Wiciak graduated from Woodward High School in 1950. He began his coaching career with St. Adalbert's Grade School football team. In 1956, he married Barbara Kronmann. They became members of Regina Coeli parish where Jake began coaching his favorite sport, football. He was the cadet football coach for Regina Coeli for 15 years during which time all of his sons participated in the sport. In addition to coaching football, he coached boys and girl's grade school and high school basketball, girl's grade school and high school softball.

When his sons went on to high school, he was Start High School's Booster President in 1981 and was the Fall Sports Banquet Chairman a number of years. He continued to serve his parish as advisor to the high school CYO group, president of grade school youth boosters, and Deanery Chairman.



His awards include Regina Coeli "Outstanding Contributor", 1971; "Grand Old Coach, 1974", and Veteran Coach Award, 1980. During his years at Regina Coeli, he was a softball umpire and track official.

Vatican II saw the Catholic Church revive the Diaconate Program. After Jake was chosen and accepted into the program, he studied weekends at the Holy Spirit Seminary and after three years was ordained a Permanent Deacon in 1978. He now enjoys the privilege of marrying some of his players and baptizing their children.

After his ordination, he was asked by the late Monsignor Schmit to be football commissioner for the Toledo Diocese. This fall he will start his twenty-fifth year. The football program this past year saw 891 participants at the new Monsignor Schmit Sports Complex on Holland Sylvania Road.

Jake and Barbara have been married for 46 years and are the proud parents of Michael, (deceased), Robert (Suzanne); William (Jane); Thomas (Kathryn). Before Michael died, he coached grade school basketball and football. Robert coaches soccer, football, basketball, boy's and girl's softball. William and Thomas have coached basketball.

Jake enjoys his grandchildren, Michael, Erynn, Erik, Matthew, Jessica, Emily and Sydney. It's a given that Jake attends their respective, football, basketball and soccer games. Michael played football and basketball in high school and is now a basketball official. Erik plays for Anthony Wayne basketball and soccer. Matthew and Jessica participate in sports at Christ the King. Over and above his grandchildren's games, Jake maintains his special interest in all high school sports by attending some games each week.