

# Ben J. Schall

Ben J. Schall, 80, Toledo, died February 9, 1998. Mr. Schall was known throughout Toledo as both the owner of Jack's Furniture, and an ageless, versatile athlete.

The son of Hyman and Sarah Schall, he was born December 8, 1917, in Cleveland, OH where he spent his early years before the family moved to Toledo. Ben and his brother,



Dr. Sydney Schall, graduated from Woodward High School. Dr. Schall resides in San Marino, California.

His professional career began in 1946, all in the furniture business. His greatest highs and most difficult lows came as owner of Jack's Furniture. Many of those 24 plus years were spent with his wife, Shirley and daughter, Beverly by his side at the store. A devastating fire in December, 1988, destroyed the original Jack's Furniture location, but Ben was up and running one block to the east within a matter of months.

That same competitive spirit drove Ben Schall the athlete. The Toledo Jewish News, in its April 1991 edition, reported, "Ben Schall keeps rolling along. During a one week period, he sank a three point basket in the Jewish Community Center "Huff-N-Puff" Basketball League and bowled a 685 series in the B'nai Brith Bowling League. Not Bad! Right...especially if you are 73 years old!"

Sporting honors included a varsity basketball letter in 1939 on The University of Toledo's national powerhouse coached by Harold Anderson and led by Chuck Chuckovits. After his return from China as a US. Army officer in 1946, he lettered in baseball at UT. His 72 year basketball career also was highlighted by all-star appearances for the Army in national A.A.U. tournaments, stints with the Toledo Jeeps and the Detroit Gems in the National Basketball League, and a tour across country opposing the famed Harlem Globetrotters.

Other athletic accomplishments included a triple against the legendary King and His Court and numerous gold medals in the Toledo Senior Olympics. Ben Schall, the revered athletic, kind human being and devoted husband, father and grandfather, was selected as a charter inductee to the Toledo Jewish Community Center Sports Hall of Fame in 1995.

Mr. Schall was a member of Congregation Etz Chayim, B'nai Brith, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Toledo Jewish Community Center Sports Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Shirley; children, Beverly (Richard) Markoff, Indianapolis, IN, Dr. Perry (Gwen) Schall of Canton, Ohio and Andrea (Michael) Konz of Toledo; and four grandchildren.

Services will be held 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February 12, at the **Robert H. Wick/Wisniewski Funeral Home**, 2426 N. Reynolds Rd. Memorials may be made to Congregation Etz Chayim, the Toledo Jewish Community Center (athletic funds), or the American Heart Association.