

## **Jay Bishop**

Jay Bishop spent most of his life in North Canton and raised his family here. He referred to North Canton as “God’s Country” so it is no surprise that he has been described as “a true Viking through and through.”

Jay was born October 15, 1932, in North Canton to William and Mae Bishop. He attended North Canton Schools and has told stories of playing in the first ever game at Memorial Stadium. The team had to get dressed on the bus because the locker room wasn’t constructed in time. Jay graduated from NoCaHi in 1950.

After serving four years in the U. S. Navy, Jay completed an apprentice program at the Hoover Company. He later earned a degree in Education from Kent State University and began his teaching career. He started his career in Northwest Schools before moving to Canton South. By 1977, Jay had earned his masters and came home to

North Canton to create the Construction and Building course at the North Campus. He wrote the curriculum for the program and taught it until his retirement in 1985.

While at Hoover, Jay became very involved in the athletic programs. For over 30 years, he worked as a coach, equipment manager, and official for many sports including track, basketball, and football. He even sang the National Anthem at hundreds of games. Andy Logan recalls that, before the school had a contract with local hospitals, Jay doubled as an athletic trainer and helped “numerous young men and women over the years.”

Jay was involved in the community in other ways as well. He was an active volunteer for the Sideliners, a member of the Jaycees, and was the Pack 5 Cub Scout Leader from 1963 – 1973. At the YMCA, he was a member of the Y’s Men’s Club and an Indian Guides Chief for 20 years. He was a member of the Greater Canton Men’s

Chorus from 1985 until his death in 2011 and was a founding member of Chorus for a Cause from 1995 until 2011.

Jay was a lifetime member of Zion United Church of Christ. He was involved with the Consistory and served several times as president. He sang in the choir and played in the bell choir. He hand-carved the wooden crosses that the choir still wears with their robes. He even drove the church bus!

Jay was a devoted family man. His wife Martha – a NoCaHi graduate in 1951 – survives him. All four of his children graduated from Hoover High School. Mike in 1975, Joe in 1979, Mariann in 1982, and Jolynn in 1987. Jay was always active in his children's activities. In addition, he enjoyed collecting coins and stamps and had a passion for woodworking.

The affection that Jay Bishop had for his hometown was evident in how he spent his life. It is with much esteem

that the North Canton Alumni Association welcomes H. Jay  
Bishop.