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John F. Hanser Jr., 'Iron Man' of Xavier football teams in '30s

John F. Hanser Jr. crossed paths with many people in his life, as a businessman and as an athlete.

Mr. Hanser, 74, of Park Hills, died Saturday morning at his home.

He was the co-owner of the Davitt and Hanser Music Co. in Delhi Township, Ohio. The company was founded in 1924 by Mr. Hanser's father, John, and William Davitt.

Mr. Hanser worked at the wholesale music distributing firm for much of his life, and was its president at the time of his retirement in 1985, his son, Jack Hanser, said.

Although he attended school at both St. Xavier High School and Xavier University in Cincinnati, and had his business in

Ohio, Mr. Hanser was a lifelong Kentuckian, his son said.

"He grew up in Bellevue and lived in Park Hills for 40 years," said Jack Hanser.

In his college days at Xavier in the late 1930s, Mr. Hanser played center and other line positions on the football team, and gained the nickname of "Iron Man." His grandson played on Covington Catholic High's state championship football team last fall, as a center, and Mr. Hanser liked to discuss that association, Jack Hanser said.

Mr. Hanser served with the Army in the Pacific Theater in World War II. He was a member of St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright.

An avid golfer and bowler, Mr. Hanser was a charter member of the St. Pius X Church Bowling League. He once bowled a 299 game, his son said.

Mr. Hanser participated in several golf leagues throughout

Northern Kentucky, including the Thursday Morning Seniors League at Kenton County Golf Course, Jack Hanser said.

Survivors include his wife, Mary M. "Peg" Franxman Hanser; sons, Jack Hanser and Gary Hanser, both of Edgewood, and Tim Hanser of Ft. Mitchell; daughters, Debbie Huffman of Colerain Township, Ohio, and Peggy Johnson of Crestview Hills; a brother, Bob Hanser of Ft. Thomas; a sister, Dorothy Dansberry of Edgewood; and 13 grandchildren.

Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright. Visitation will be from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at Middendorf-Bullock Funeral Home, Covington. Entombment will be in St. Mary Cemetery Mausoleum, Ft. Mitchell. Memorials are suggested to the St. Agnes Church Building Fund or the charity of donor's choice.



John
Hanser