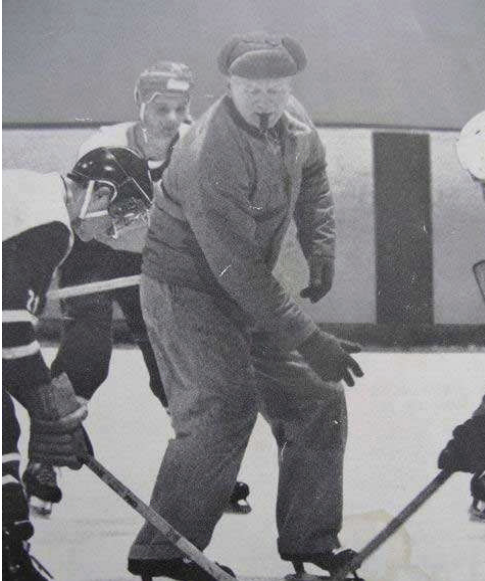


Winthrop Honors Mort Buckley

Founding Father of Its Youth Hockey Program

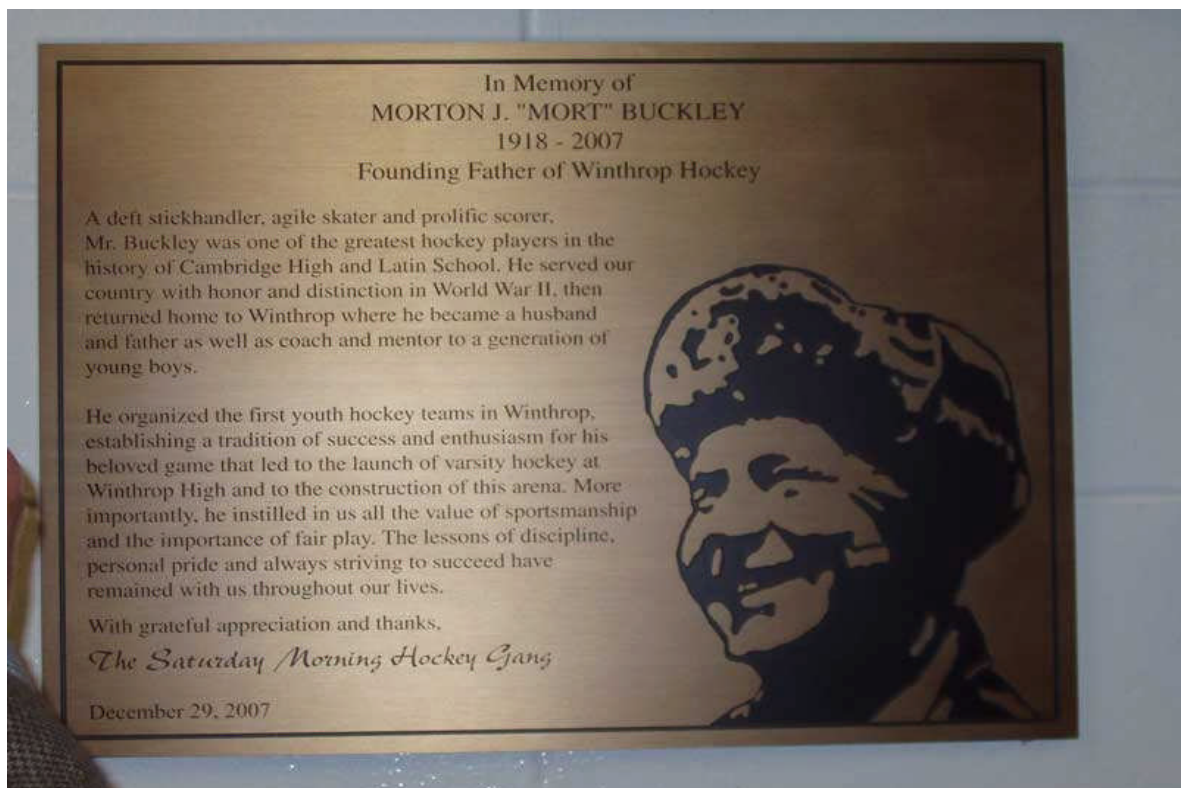


On Saturday, December 29, 2007, approximately 100 friends, family members, and hockey players who learned how to play the game back in the 1960's gathered at Larsen Arena in Winthrop to salute and honor Morton J. "Mort" Buckley. Mort, also known as "Red" during his playing days at Cambridge High and Latin, organized the first youth hockey program in the town and directed it for ten years with the able assistance of several other gentlemen who, like Mort, were members of America's "Greatest Generation."

Mort was a leading citizen of the town in many other ways. He was for many years a member of the Cottage Yacht Club and one of the adult leaders of the youth sailing program. He served Winthrop diligently in the demanding job of town assessor, and he was in charge of all of the Massachusetts Electric Company's business with the citizens of Winthrop.

Richard Honan organized Mort Buckley Day and commissioned the casting of a bronze plaque, which is mounted in the arena lobby and was unveiled during the ceremony. Jim Lederman, "Voice of the Vikings," was master of ceremonies for the brief speaking program. So many friends and former players and their families generously gave to help defray the cost of the plaque that the organizing committee was able to make a contribution of more than \$1,500 to a charity that will be designated by Mr. Buckley's children.

We invite you to enjoy, on the following pages, a few photos from this memorable day as well as several more from many years ago.



The Plaque on Larsen Arena Lobby Wall

Jim Lederman opened the program by welcoming all attendees. He then called on State Representative Bobby DeLeo, who read and delivered a proclamation from the State legislature.

Committee Chairman Rich Honan then took the microphone and read the following tribute, which he had composed in March 2007, shortly after Mort's death:

Mort Buckley, husband, father, grandfather and a member of the Greatest Generation passed away this week. I have known Mr. Buckley since I was a young boy, growing up along side his son, Frankie. I can't let this time pass without taking a few minutes to express some good memories of a stand up guy.

When we were younger, Mr. Buckley used to spend endless Saturday mornings teaching us, the Goll's, the Lally's, the Driscoll's, the Dimes' and a slew of other Winthrop kids how to play hockey. He taught us more than just playing hockey, he taught us about respecting your opponent. He taught us to play tough, he cared about us, he took the time to explain right and wrong to us. I'll tell you, he wasn't a tough guy, but no one was tougher than Mort, other than some of those nuns at St. John's School. Mort didn't like fighting, but he did teach us the importance of standing up for what was right.

He was an individual that I came to respect and appreciate more as I got older. It wasn't the fact that he taught us how to play a little hockey, or come summer when he would load a bunch of wild twelve year old boys in his car to take us up to Marblehead or Quincy for sailing in race week, but more importantly it was the time that he took to care about us. To keep us in line and out of trouble. I'd like to think he was an influence the way I brought up my own children and now, my grand children. The one thing I don't remember him doing, was teaching his son Frankie about playing the horses.



Mort was a veteran of World War II and was a member of the Greatest Generation. He spent most of his service time in Alaska on the Aleutian Islands. He was proud to be a Veteran. In the past few years I had tried to get Mort to maybe ride with me in the big two and a half ton Army truck on Memorial Day or stand with me in front of Town Hall on Veterans Day. I guess, I just wanted to stand there beside him as a United States Veteran, and see that I had grown up from a scrappy young boy to an adult, who had learned from him when to take a stand and also, when to stand down.

The final speaker was committee member Tom Burke, who acknowledged the presence of Dick Bangs, one of the many able assistant coaches who helped Mort down through the years. Others we remembered

and thanked included Dick Carr, Dick Dimes, Bill English, Franny Gilfoyle, Tom Keating, and Larry Larsen.

Tom also asked that those present salute the hockey team members who have passed away but who undoubtedly were watching and enjoying the proceedings from the "Second Balcony" along with most of the coaching staff: John Carr, Richard Goll, Pat Honan, Dick Jasse, Justin Lally, John Pedoto, Doc Rossi, and Bobby Sheppard.



**Bob DeLeo and Frank Buckley
with Legislative Proclamation**

**Mort Buckley's children with the
check for charity:
Frank Buckley, Mary Buckley
Bourgea, Paul Buckley, and
Eileen Buckley Marley**



Emcee Jim Lederman

**The Buckleys with
mounted plaque**



Organizers of Mort Buckley Day (l-r) Standing: Phil Marks, Mike Driscoll, Leo Dawson, Chuck Flanagan, Jim Lederman. Seated: Tom Burke, Chairman Rich Honan

Looking Back to What Made Winthrop “Hockey Town, USA”



Upper: Frank Buckley, Mort Buckley, Hucky Larsen, Ed Lally, Paul Giromini, Mike Hogan. *Lower:* Giromini, Hogan, Paul Buckley, Bob Sheppard, Justin Lally.



Lower: Cronin Rink
action

A black and white photograph of an indoor ice hockey game. In the foreground, a player in a light-colored jersey with dark stripes on the sleeves is skating towards the right, holding a hockey stick. To his left, another player in a dark jersey with light-colored stripes is also skating. In the background, several other players are visible on the ice, some standing and others in motion. The rink is enclosed by boards, and the ceiling is dark. The overall scene captures an active moment during a game.

Winthrop High Hockey Memories



WHS Team Photo (split). Coach John Marsh, who succeeded the team's first mentor, Matt Boyle, is at right in lower photo.



Upper: Captains Bob Tallent and Jim Reid with coach John Marsh.



Middle: John McDonald sits out a penalty at Lynn Arena

Lower: Bob Sheppard, Rich Honan, and Rich Goll lace up for action.

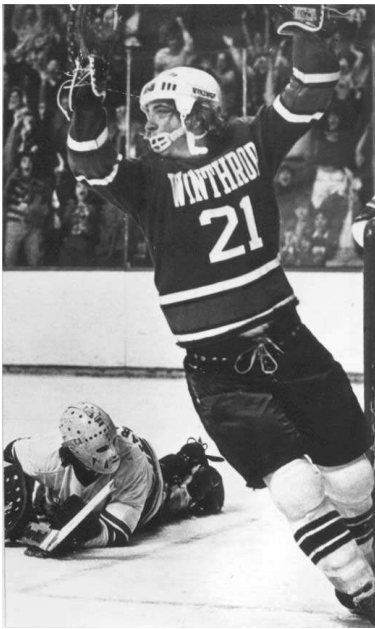


Vikings Top Braintree for 1976 State Championship The Last Public School to Win It All



The Game Winning Goal:
Joe McDonald feeds Jack
Burke for the easy score.





Upper Photos: Burke and linemates celebrate the game-winning score.

Below: The State Champs and coach Bill Falasca on Boston Garden ice.



**Thank You to All Whose Generous Contributions Helped
Make Mort Buckley Day Possible!**

Dick Bangs
Brian and Jean Beattie
Terry Brugman
(in memory of parents Dick and Mary)
Peter Burke
Tom Burke
Brendan Collins
Leo Dawson
Mike Driscoll
Geno and Jeani DeAngelis
Ken Diamond
Dick Dimes
Mike Driscoll
Tom and Paula Driscoll
Kevin English
Terry English
Mike Eruzione
Mike Fenlon
Peter Fenlon
Chuck Flanagan
Jim Foley
Dan and Ann Ford
Tony Fucillo
Mike Goll
Steve Goll
Dan and Stephanie Honan
Richard and Mary Ellen Honan
Ed and Mary Lally
Paul and Carolyn Marks
Phil Marks
John McDonald
Paul Mulkerron
John Murphy
Jim Reid and Mary Allard
Eddie Rossi
Jack Sharkey
Janis Sheppard
Dick Thibeu
Joe Zambella