



George Franklin Todd

July 23, 1925 - June 25, 2025

George Franklin Todd, jr. died in his Lenexa, KS home on June 25, 2025, just 3 weeks shy of his 100th birthday. Born in Kansas City Kansas to George Sr. and Mary Christina McCoshum Todd, George was a lifelong Kansan whose passions included sports, (as both an athlete and a fan), family (especially the young ones) and reading (he devoured piles of books well past his 99th birthday).

George's widowed father raised George and his younger brother Bill with the help of their quirky Uncle Kikey and two older sisters. Money was tight, and in a move that influenced the rest of his life, George earned school lunch money by caddying at a local golf course.

He played golf and basketball at Rosedale High School and Emporia State Teachers' College and coached basketball first in Independence, Kansas then in Kansas City, Kansas, at Central Junior and Argentine High School. Later, he was a high school basketball referee and baseball umpire.

George continued at Central Junior as a teacher and counselor and at Harmon High School as vice principal. He finished his career as principal at Rosedale where he had graduated in the class of 1943. Whether mentoring students in the classroom, guiding future athletes as a coach, or sharing camaraderie during weekend golf games, his steadfast commitment to

teaching and coaching left a lasting impression on countless students and athletes.

During World War II, George served proudly as a nose gunner on a B 24 Liberator. A sergeant in the Army Air Corps, he was stationed in Italy. Years after the war ended, members of his unit held regular reunions and like many veterans, he finally began to share details about his war experiences decades later. As the last surviving member of his unit, in 2012, he was delighted to visit the WWII Memorial in Washington DC on an Honor Flight.

Throughout his career and in retirement, George was happiest on the golf course with his long-time buddies who affectionately called themselves 'The Fearsome Foursome.' Once the others convinced him to take a break from his Dubs Dred marshalling job to play a single hole. Cool as always, he sunk one of three career holes- in- one. George famously shot his age at 66, placed in several Kansas Senior tournaments, and passed his love for the sport to the next three generations, most recently to his 12-year-old great grandson whose swing George pronounced to be "good enough to pay for college."

Playing golf wasn't George's only sports addiction. You could be sure he was tuned into the Golf Channel (arm-chair quarterbacking) unless the Chiefs, Royals or Jayhawks were playing. And, although he was always a snazzy dresser, his closet was crammed with his team shirts which he rotated according to the sports calendar.

George leaves five children-Cris Siebenlist (Glenn), Marge Therio, Melissa Wayne (Michael), Tony Wayne (Kitty) and Mary Jane Ecton, seven grandchildren-Mason Poole, Adam Poole, Molly Wayne, Christopher Somers, Megan Somers, John Ecton and Stoney Weaver as well as 7 great grandchildren, with the next one due near his upcoming 100th birthday.

George was preceded in death by siblings Georgia Burris, Kay Jewell and Bill Todd, his first wife Marvelle Peery Todd and his second wife Francis Cheshire Todd, son George Rondell Todd, daughter Kimberly Weaver and grandson John Michael Wayne.

From the approach to the follow-through, George made quite an impact. He leaves many cherished friends from teaching, coaching and golf, as well as those he met (both staff and residents) at Garden Villas of Lenexa where he lived the last 15 years.

George was grateful for the respect, care and kindness he received from Elevate Hospice who enabled him to pass on his own terms and in his own bed.

In many ways, it was his final "Fore!"

A Celebration of Life will be held for family and close friends at 2:00pm, July 19, 2025 at the Garden Villas of Lenexa auditorium with internment and military honors at the Leavenworth National Cemetery at a later date. In Lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to The KC Royals Foundation, Empowering Kansas City, Kansas Students or 15 And The Mahomies Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Leavenworth National Cemetery

150 Muncie Road
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

Garden Villas of Lenexa
9705 Monrovia
Lenexa, KS 66215

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Carol H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Franklin Todd.

Carol H. - July 20, 2025 at 01:16 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of George Franklin Todd.



July 15, 2025 at 10:39 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of George Franklin Todd.

July 15, 2025 at 10:39 PM

CT

“ George and Fran were some of my best neighbors. I love them. They loved me. And my pups. They both made an amazing couple which made my new adventure as a homeowner a pleasure. Plus getting to know their family. They both raised fantastic kids who are friends with me to this day. George will be greatly missed. 🙏
Corbin

Corbin Trimble - July 06, 2025 at 07:47 PM

LF

“ Mr Todd was the biggest teacher I ever had so I remember him 1956-59 walking the hall ways of Central Jr. He always had a smile and a greeting. Never had him as a teacher but when I was in the 9th grade (Mr. Davies Journalism Class) my first writing assignment for the school news paper was to interview Mr. Todd who coached the Basketball team. After the newspaper came out Mr. Todd was wondering why he didnt get a bigger story that had more details. Gosh Coach I was a Rookie, forgive me. We did have the best 9th grade team in the city that year. With Bundy, Gene Allen, Bill Woods, Bill Wendel, Eurvin Williams, and other good players. George was a good human being and role model for every student that ever took the time to speak to him. We had a lot of respect for this good man. Rest in Peace. Lonnie Freeman Weatherby Lake Mo.

Lonnie Freeman - July 06, 2025 at 01:47 PM

LF

“ When I started 7th Grade at Central 56-59, he always had a smile and a greeting in the hallway. Never had him for any class, but when I was in Mr Davies Journalism class and my first writing assignment was to interview Mr. Todd who coached the 9th grade basketball team. After the paper came out Mr Todd was wondering why the story didnt have a lot more details about the team and coming season. Coach I was a Rookie, give me a break! He was a good human being and I had a lot of respect for him for the years he spent in education and setting a great example for all students . Rest in Peace to a friend.

Lonnie Freeman - July 06, 2025 at 12:56 PM

SD

“ I have fond memories of Mr. Todd as my 8th grade basketball coach at Central Jr, 1954-1955. He was a good coach and I liked playing for him, I learned a lot. Didn't see him after leaving Central Jr till several, probably 30 years ago. I walked into the golf shop at Dubs Dread, there was a tall man standing, looking out the window. I walked to the counter and said, "I'm Don Stroup, I have a tee time." I heard the man looking out the window say, "I know Don Stroup." It was George. I couldn't believe he remembered me after all those years. We talked for a few minutes and I went out to play my version of golf with my group. Saw him a couple times after that. Great memories playing for George Todd and Fred Kohl. Both good coaches, good men and served in the military. Deeply saddened that they both have passed. Prayers, condolences and deepest sympathy to the Todd family. RIP Mr Todd.
Don Stroup

Stroup Donald - July 02, 2025 at 04:00 AM

JW

“ So sorry to read of Mr. Todd's passing. I knew him by my association with his brother, Bill. They were both true educators and good men. All who knew them were blessed to have had them in their lives. With sympathy, Judy Ward

Judy Ward - June 30, 2025 at 03:54 PM

SE

“ I am a retired school principal. I first met George when he was principal at Rosedale Middle where I was band director. George led that school with a quiet, no nonsense approach. Every morning he would be standing at the teacher sign in sheet greeting teachers as they arrived. It was a nice way to start each day. I later found out that his morning greeting had a dual purpose. He also wanted to make sure everyone was there on time! 🕒 Even though he was an “old jock” George loved music. He never missed a concert. I couldn’t have ever asked for more support. George was a principal of few words. Compliments didn’t come just rolling out of his mouth. One day he stopped me in the hallway. He said “if I could bottle and sell what you do in that classroom, I’d make a million dollars”. I was so moved that I went back to my desk and wrote it down. I still have that slip of paper in my treasures. I often wished I would have gotten him to sign it! I later became a principal. It was largely to do with the example George had set. I got to tell him that several times during our visits in later years. George was one of a kind. He will be missed by many, including me. Sending love and prayers for peace to his family. Sue Elliott

Sue Elliott - June 30, 2025 at 12:45 PM