

Football Coach Bob Binder Dies, 1970

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COACH — Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Bob Binder, former All-American at Valley College and coach at Reseda and Canoga Park High Schools. The News photo

Coach Binder Dies at 41 of Heart Attack

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow for Bob Binder, head football coach at Canoga Park High School who died Sunday, apparently the victim of a heart attack.

Services will be held at Lorenzen Mortuary, 19300 Sherman Way, Reseda, and interment will follow at Glen Haven Memorial Park in San Fernando.

Mr. Binder 41 became ill at 8:15 a.m. Sunday while watering the lawn at his home at 10623 Yolanda St., Northridge.

A Los Angeles Fire Dept. rescue unit was summoned, but all attempts to revive Mr. Binder failed and he was pronounced dead at 8:30.

Mr. Binder won All-City honors as a fullback at North Hollywood High School.

He was graduated in 1947 and spent three years in the United States Air Force, then enrolled for a year at the University of Houston.

Mr. Binder played center for Al "Ace" Hunt at Valley College in 1955 and became one of the most honored football players in the history of the Van Nuys school.

At the age of 24, he was named most inspirational player by his teammates and won Metropolitan Conference player of the year and second team junior college All-American honors.

The Monarchs were 9-1 that year, including a 20-14 win over Taft College in the Orange Show Bowl at San Bernardino.

"He was the only center we ever had in 19 years at Valley to receive that honor (Metro player of year)," said Hunt, now the tennis coach at Valley.

"We were very close personal friends," said Hunt. "I feel the loss very much. It's been quite a wonderful relationship."

The pair worked closely in 1965 to stage a 10-year reunion of the 1955 team, the only Valley College club ever to win a conference championship.

After Valley, he transferred to Los Angeles State College (now Cal State Los Angeles) where he received his degree.

Mr. Binder launched his coaching career at Northridge Junior High School, where he tutored football in 1960-61-62.

His first full year at Reseda High School was in 1963 after having worked there on a part-time basis since 1960.

Mr. Binder worked as a coaching assistant to head football coach Roy Jae in addition to handling teaching duties.

He was named head coach at Canoga Park this year after Jack Mathieson departed, and led the Hunters to a 3-5 season and three straight victories at the outset of the season.

He is survived by his wife Sue, sons Bob Jr. 19, Troy 17, Melinda 13 and Valerie 11.

Bob Jr. was an All-West Valley League center last year at Reseda High School and is now attending Bainridge Prep School for one year before entering the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.