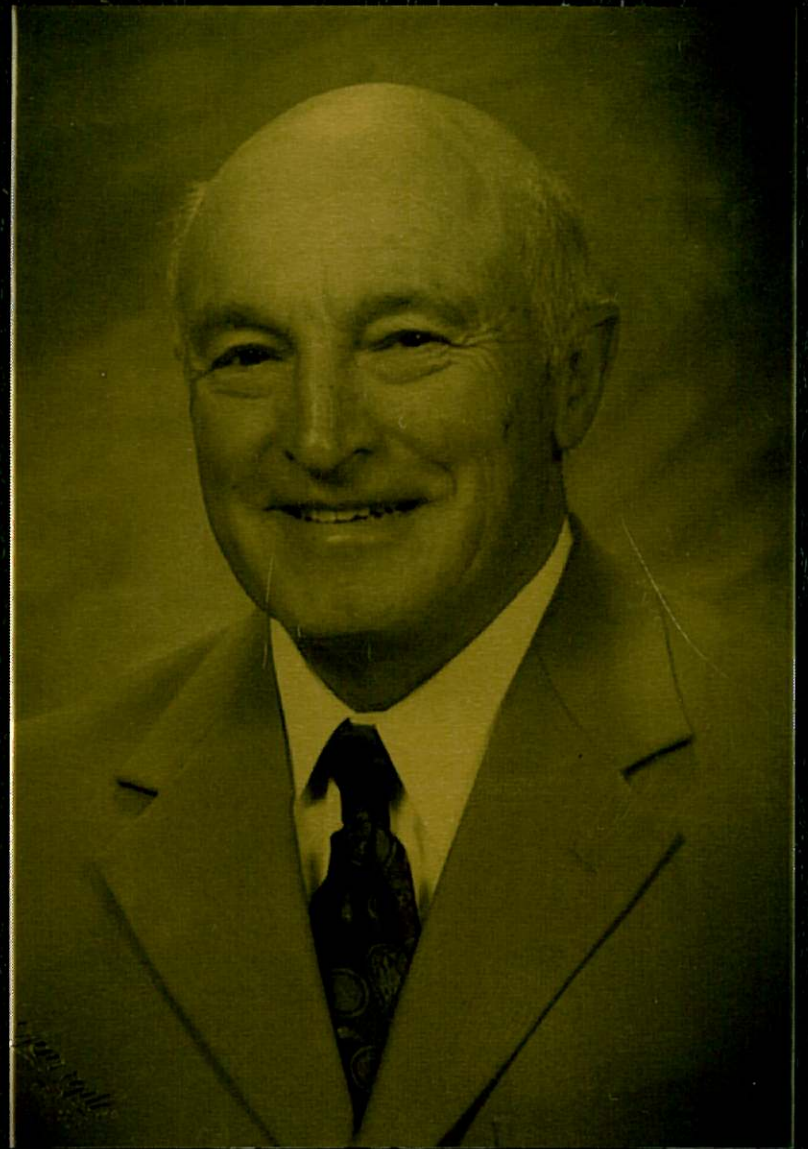


OFHS



WALL OF FAME

Inducted May 25, 2008



MYLES BELKE

The third of Nora and Henry's seven children, Myles Belke was born in Oconto Falls on April 18, 1940. After attending Jefferson and Washington, he went to OFHS where he was active in football, basketball and track before graduating with the Class of '58. He went on to attend and graduate from the University of Oshkosh, majoring in biology and physical education. After Oshkosh, Myles earned his teaching certificate from Marinette County Normal.

On June 25, 1966, Myles and Jeanne Froelich were joined in marriage. They have two children, Becky and Robert and five grandchildren, who are the apples of their eyes and a special source of pride.

Accepting his first teaching contract with the Bonduel School District, Myles taught a variety of subjects in the junior high school, eventually specializing in math. Along the way he coached high school football, basketball and track. After 25 years of working with junior high/middle school students, Myles shifted to teaching fourth and fifth graders at Bonduel Elementary. One of his biggest claims to fame was heading the district spelling program. Under his guidance nine students advanced to the State Spelling Bee in Madison and four made it to the National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C.

In 1985, signs identifying Bonduel as the "State Spelling Bee Capital" were placed at the entrance to the village. Students and friends began to call Myles "Mr. Bee."

Myles served in all the offices of the Bonduel Rotary Club, on the Village Zoning Committee, on the Bonduel Growth and Development Committee and on the Sacred Heart Parish Council.

In 1993 Myles received the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellowship Award and was named 1993 Wisconsin Elementary Teacher of the Year. WASB, WASDA and WASBO recognized Myles' dedication and outstanding service to children by naming him the 1993-94 Teacher of the Year. Other recognitions included being listed in the Who's Who among America's Teachers and serving as a Master Teacher at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Teacher World Program.

For several years after his retirement in 1996, Myles helped students attain their GED through Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. In 2000 a stroke severely weakened his right side and limited his work. Myles continues to be visible in the community and stays active in the functions of daily life. He and his wife have been asked to serve as mentors for other stroke survivors. Myles' presence continues to serve as a source of strength and hope for others.