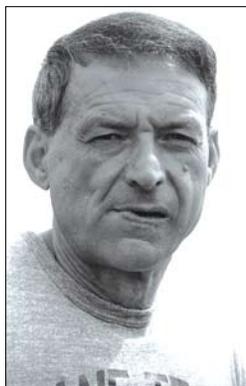


# Rockwell renamed "Coach Sam Bronswick Way"



Coach Bronswick was the head football coach at Lane Tech from 1978-1993 and guided his teams to a 118- 40 overall record over 15 years. Rockwell St. from Addison along the west side of Lane Tech stadium will soon be renamed in his honor.

## Former Lane Tech football coach honored

BY DEBAT MEDIA NEWS SERVICE

The late Sam Bronswick, the Lane Tech College Prep High School football coach, will have a street named and unveiled in his honor at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9.

The honorary street—dubbed "Coach Sam Bronswick Way"—will run south along Rockwell from Addison along the west side of Lane Tech Stadium.

Ald. Ameya Pawar [47th], Bob Bronswick the Coach Bronswick's son, and daughters, Sue and Gail, and Lane Tech Principal Brian Tension are expected to attend the event.

The honorary street was approved by Mayor Emanuel and the Chicago City Council in September. It is designated as—"a street named in Coach Bronswick's honor."

In August, Coach Bronswick was honored at Lane Stadium where the late Lane Coach's son and daughters took part in the pre-game coin toss.

The family also was presented with a plaque from the current Lane Tech football team at the homecoming game. The Lane Tech Indians wore stickers on their helmets in honor of Coach Bronswick the 2016 season.

According to his son, Sam Bronswick was a very influential coach who knew how to get the best out of his players.

Bronswick, the head football coach at Lane Tech from 1978-1993, guided his teams to a 118-40 overall record (a .746 winning percentage over 15 years). His Lane Tech team also won a City Championship in 1985, went to the state semifinals in 1980 and state quarterfinals in 1989.

Bob Bronswick, who was his dad's assistant coach for several of his years at Lane, said his father had a way of relating to the kids and the players very well.

"He showed them a tremendous amount of respect and in return, they showed him the same amount," he said. "He also was an extremely good communicator on the practice field as well as on the game field."

Former Lane All-City quarterback Les O'Hara has played football for more than 24 years starting at age eight.

"From youth football to Big Ten football, I have had all types of

coaches—but Sam was the most influential coach to me," O'Hara said. "He recognized my talents when most had given up on me at QB. He turned me into an All-City QB and the rest of my teammates into a City Championship Dynasty."

Sam's children, Bob and Sue in particular, love and supported O'Hara on the field and in the hallways of Lane during his formative years. After O'Hara graduated from Lane Tech he played free safety at Univ. of Minnesota.

"Sam brought a quiet leadership aura around with him that gave all that played for him confidence and poise, said O'Hara, who founded a Mount Prospect-based Sports Training facility for athletes.

"If you ever got that smile from Coach Bronswick as a result of a good performance, or right answer, that smile will forever be a blessing in your life. And I am fortunate to have been able to pass that down to my four boys," O'Hara said.

Coach Bronswick pushed his kids to reach their highest potential, according to Sue Bronswick, his daughter and retired 35-year physical education teacher in Chicago.

"My dad grew up in the projects on the Near West Side on Chicago near Little Italy," she said. "He was a man that came from humble beginnings and made something of himself."

Sam told it like it is and never sugar coated anything he said. He just spoke the truth—even if it wasn't something you wanted to hear, said Sue. He was an old school coach who really motivated the kids and was by all means fair.

"Sam's favorite quote was 'winners never quit and quitters never win'—and he lived by that motto," Sue said.

He saved a lot of under privileged kids by showing them they can have a future and good education by playing football in college and earning a scholarship.

"He affected people in ways I never knew as his daughter. His players are forever grateful to him. He affected them very deeply and they really appreciated him," she said.

Football games were a Bronswick family affair with both Sam and Bob coaching high school football and Sue supervising half time as the Lane Tech cheerleading coach.

Sister Gail and their mother Goldie were Sam's biggest fans -- never missing a single game regardless of the weather.

"We were a Lane Tech family," Sue said.

In addition, Sue videotaped all the football games from the upper-level press box at every location the team played so Sam could review and study the films.

He would make player and

Northern Illinois Univ.

He was an assistant football coach at Foreman, Taft and Lane before taking the head coaching spot at Lane in 1978. In 1993, he was inducted into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame. He taught Physical Education at Lane Tech for 15 years and then was the Director for the Drivers Education Dept. for 13 years at Lane tech as well.

"He had a great eye walking through the hall to find players." Bob Bronswick told DNAinfo about his father. "He would tell the students to try out and that football could be their ticket to college. He made an impact on so many of their lives."

Bronswick was married to his wife, Goldie, who died in 2014, for 62 years. Bronswick passed away June 19, on Father's Day at the age of 88 and was buried alongside her at Shalom Memorial Cemetery in Arlington Heights.

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