

University of Notre Dame
RELIGIOUS BULLETIN
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Another of Notre Dame's great coaches is dead.

Wednesday evening at home, a heart attack caused the sudden death of George Keogan, varsity basketball coach. It is a great loss.

Notre Dame was home to Coach Keogan. He had lived and worked here the greater part of his life. He came to the campus in 1923. A generation of young athletes has passed through his capable hands. All were "his boys", as he loved to call them. It was his glory that many of his proteges are ranking coaches in basketball circles.

George Keogan was a great coach. Before coming to Notre Dame he had won 151 out of 161 games with the four teams under his supervision. In 1926 he produced the first of three powerful Notre Dame teams. That year "his boys" won 19 out of 20 starts. The following year the record was the same. The third year saw 18 victories in 22 games. In 1931-32 the campus cheered for an All-American team — 16 wins in a row. The passing of time did not diminish Coach Keogan's power to put a winning team on the floor; to date the 1943 team has lost only one game.

Coach Keogan had worked with two other great men: Rockne and Nicholson, names which belong not only to Notre Dame but to the world of sport. There was a suddenness in the death of all three of these leaders: Rockne, an air crash; Nicholson, a heart attack. In that suddenness there is something symbolical of Notre Dame's teams: they fight until the end; all may have seemed lost, but there arises a sudden unbeatable spirit, and it has spelled victory.

Wednesday, Coach George Keogan won his greatest victory: eternal life.

Thursday evening, the Rosary was said for Coach Keogan, and fingering their beads near his mortal remains were the members of his team, "his boys," and about him this morning at the Solemn Mass in Sacred Heart Church were those he loved: his mother and sister, his wife, the team, the faculty, the student body and his many friends.

Coach Keogan was buried within a few feet of two of his co-workers: Rockne and Nicholson. God grant that all three are home with God and Our Lady in eternal rest!



George Keogan