**ROBERT KUHNHEIN**

**HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME**

Class of 2016

Robert “Bob” Kuhnhein was born in 1925 and graduated from Highlands in 1944. He attended Carson Newman College where he played on the football team. He later transferred to Duke University and then went into active duty in the U.S. Navy. Robert is survived by his wife, Grace Kuhnhein.

Robert played football at Highlands. Robert played offensive and defensive line throughout his varsity career. He helped the Bluebirds win the 1943 Mythical State Championship his senior year. He was also a part of the Drama Club, Blue Ribbon, Student Council, and Art Club.

Robert opted to graduate Highlands early in order to enlist in the Flight Training School at Carson Newman College. He then transferred to Duke University. Before the football season, he was rushed into active duty on a destroyer escort ship in the Pacific during World War II, where he remained until the end of the war, August 1945.

Upon discharge from the U.S Navy, Robert earned his Master Plumber’s License and started his own business. Robert was a member and president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was a Scoutmaster and on the Executive Board of Boy Scouts of America. Robert coached and was one of the Founding Fathers of the Fort Thomas Junior Football League. Robert also coached teams in the Fort Thomas Baseball League and was a member and president of The Optimist Club of Fort Thomas. He was a Highlands team statistician for 32 years and was a board member and member of the Fort Thomas Lion’s Club.

Robert was part of the All-NKAC, All-State, and the All-State Southern team, representing 12 states. In 1991, he was inducted into the NKY Hall of Fame.