# Marvin A. Babler Dec. 11, 1908 - Dec. 17, 1953

#### Marvin A. Babler, Top Local Athlete, Succumbs Thursday

Marvin Babler, 45 years of age, the greatest athlete in the Monticello high school's illustrious 40-year athletic history, died at 12:10 Thursday afternoon in an Appleton hospital after an illness of only about four weeks.

#### **Three-Sport Star**

A three-sport star of unequalled ability, Marv was an outstanding performer in basketball, track and football. While he was outstanding as a team player, Marv's individual brilliance as a competitor was best appreciated by his track accomplishments. He excelled in the broad jump, javelin and shot put, in which he set records which were never equaled in Monticello's track history.

## **Best Wisconsin Forward**

Marv led the Monticello high school basketball into the state high school basketball tournament in Madison in his senior year in 1926. He closed out his spectacular prep cage career there by being unanimously selected as the "best high school basketball forward in Wisconsin." Everyone of the experts at that tournament agreed that Marv was probably the best all-around man that appeared in the tournament.

Born in Monticello, Dec. 11, 1908, Mr. Babler was the son of Mrs. Henry Babler, Sr. On June 26, 1928, he was united in marriage to Dorothy Grenzow, also of Monticello. He graduated from Platteville State Teachers' college in 1935. He was captain of the college basketball team there in his senior year and was also a member of the track team. Marv also held a Master of Arts degree from the University of Iowa. His spectacular track performances did not go unheeded, and he was engaged as history teacher and track coach in the Appleton high school in 1935.

#### **Active in School Affairs**

He was head of the Appleton high school social studies department and audio-visual aids program, and also had charge of the city-wide social studies committee. Mr. Babler was a member of Waverly Masonic lodge, the Konemic lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Immanuel Evangelical United Brethren church.

At the time of his death Marv was head track coach at Appleton high school.

He is survived by his wife; one son, Rolland, teaching in Chatham, Mich., his mother, Mrs. Henry Babler, Sr., Monticello; two brothers, Herman, Monticello, and Clarence, Richland Center; two sisters, Mrs. R. J. Theiler, Madison, and Mrs. J. F, Freitag, Monroe; three half brothers, Henry L. and Fred Babler, Monticello, and Jacob Babler, Monroe; and one half sister, Mrs. Anna Kelling, Goldfield, Iowa. His father preceded him in death in 1915; also a half sister, Mrs. Fred C. Marty and a half brother, Ezra Babler.

## **Funeral Held Saturday**

Funeral services were held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon in the Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren church, Appleton, with burial in Highland Memorial park there. The Rev. Franklin E. Schlueter, church pastor, officiated.