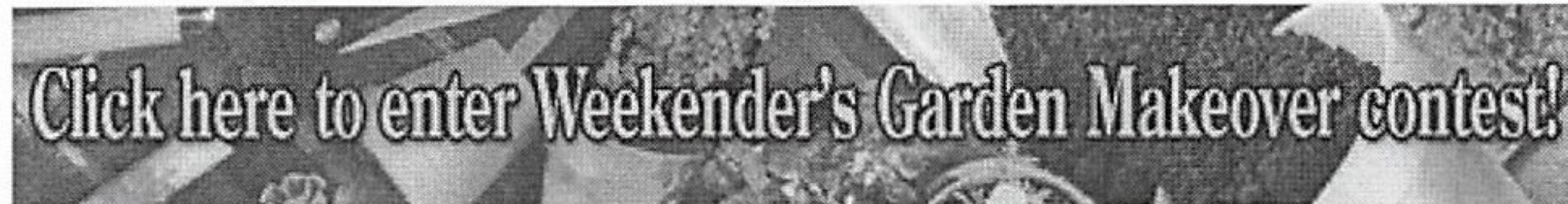


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## Caylor's love of baseball lasted a lifetime

By Carl Lukat  
08/10/2004

Clarence Connor "Pete" Caylor's recent passing revived many memories of how baseball used to be played in Loudoun County.

As a member of an Ashburn team in the Loudoun Baseball League during the 1930s, '40s and '50s, he was a multitalented player.

Caylor, 86, of Leesburg, died July 19 in the midst of enjoying the sport he loved most -- baseball.

His brother-in-law Bunky Bodmer had called Caylor that evening to let him know a baseball game was on television. Caylor headed to his favorite recliner to watch the game. He died later that night.

"He could wear the daylights out of a pitcher because he could run the bases so fast," Bodmer said of Caylor's ability during his baseball-playing days.

Caylor played left field on the Ashburn team that enjoyed a dominant run in the early 1950s. Ashburn won the Loudoun Baseball League championship three straight years, from 1950 to 1952.

"He probably knows more about baseball than anybody I knew," said Babe Ruth State Commissioner Don Rose.

"He was an avid player and a real competitor," Rose said. "His knowledge of baseball was unreal, and his compassion for the game was unmatched."

The baseball league regularly drew large crowds to the Ashburn baseball diamond, which is now located behind the Ashburn School Annex. The games turned into a countywide affair on Sunday afternoons.

Caylor was one of the league's most prominent players. He was so adept at running down fly balls in the outfield that onlookers often joked that he must be hiding an extra ball in his glove.

Many people told Caylor's daughter, Betsy Jane Carter, of Aldie, that he had the skills to play in the major leagues had he not served in the Army during World War II.

Caylor was an avid Washington Senators fan before the team left town. After that, he gave his loyalty to the Baltimore Orioles.

Caylor was born June 9, 1918, in Ashburn to the late Milton Edward and Mary Susan Voding Caylor. He was employed for 20 years as a milk truck driver and later worked for and retired from the federal government's Carpet Department at the U.S. Capitol. He was

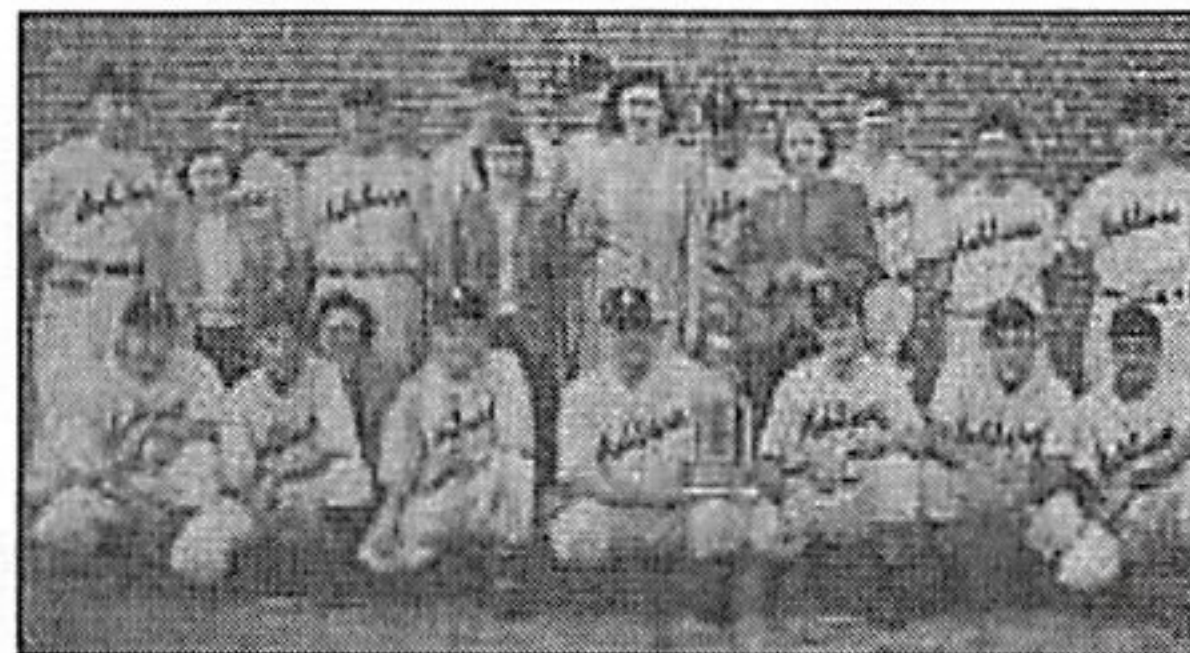
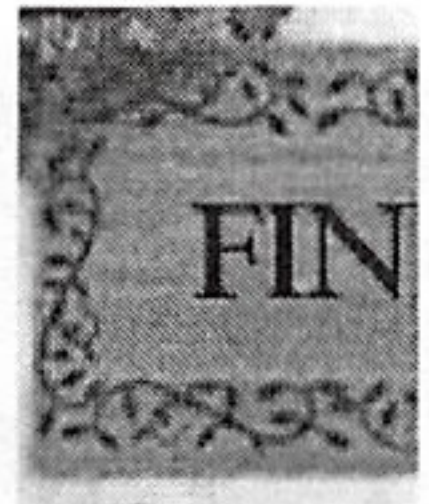


Photo Courtesy/Betsy Carter  
OLD SCHOOL: Clarence 'Pete' Caylor, in front row, third player from the right, was a member of the 1950 Ashburn baseball team that won the Loudoun Baseball League championship. Caylor died July 19, at the age of 86.



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predeceased by his wife, Charlcie B. Caylor.

He is also survived by his sister, Marion Eamich, of Ashburn; his daughter, Barbara Jean Patasce, of Pasadena, Md.; three grandsons; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the Greater Loudoun World Series Committee, c/o Don Rose, 24080 Lenah Road, Aldie, VA 20105; or to the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 1178, Leesburg, VA 20177.

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