

# Vernon Kennedy



Lloyd Vernon (Vern) Kennedy was born on March 20, 1907, in Kansas City, Missouri. He attended college at the University of Central Missouri, located in Warrensburg, Missouri, where the football field there bears his name.

The dedication of the former West Campus Field and its renaming to that of Vernon Kennedy Field, in honor of the man considered to be the University of Central Missouri's finest athlete, occurred September 25, 1954. Kennedy was a three-time All-MIAA football player (1926-27-28) for the Mules. Accomplishments came in track, field, and baseball in 1927. During that time period he won the decathlon at the prestigious Penn Relays.

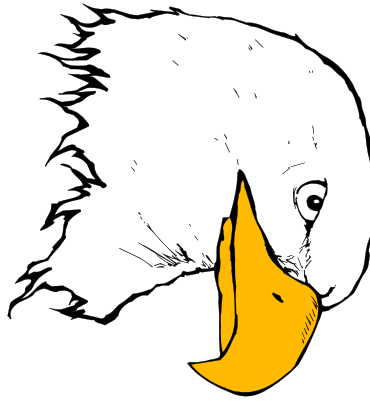
At age 27 (1934) Kennedy started playing in the big leagues with the Chicago White Sox. When Kennedy pitched for the Chicago White Sox, he threw the first no-hitter ever in Comiskey Park, which resulted in a 5-0 shutout over Cleveland on August 31, 1935. His most productive season was 1936 when he posted career highs in wins (21), innings pitched (274 1/3) and complete games (20).

He made the American League All-Star Team in both 1936 and 1938. Spanning a 12-season career, Kennedy posted a 104-132 record with 691 strikeouts and a 4.67 ERA in 1025 2/3 innings.

Other teams that Kennedy played for during his baseball career included: the Detroit Tigers, St. Louis Browns, Washington Senators, Cleveland Indians, Philadelphia Phillies, and the Cincinnati Reds. Kennedy batted left handed and threw right handed.

In his later years, Kennedy remained very active and participated in the Senior Olympics.

Vernon Kennedy died in Mendon, Missouri, as a result of a farm accident. He was 85 years of age.



To:

From:

# Mendon, Missouri



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Picnickers enjoy the Lions Club Park in downtown Mendon. Land for the park was donated by the Bittiker family.



Mendon is in close proximity to Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge.



Brown's Barber Shop can be found in downtown Mendon.



The Mendon Lions Club building is also used for community gatherings, receptions, and reunions. It is conveniently located next to the Lions Club park.



Lost Quarter Hunting Lodge, originally owned by former Jackson County Sheriff Tom Bash and also used as a hunting retreat by former U.S. President Harry S. Truman, is available for rent to hunting groups by its current owners, Ann and Dewane Leathers, 660-272-3344



Former stores along Mendon's Main Street have been adaptively reused as apartments and lodging for hunters and city dwellers who enjoy weekends in the country.



Farming plays a vital role in Mendon's economy.



Another long-time business in Mendon is Engleman's Lumber Co.