

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER, MAY 26, 1981

BURTON THOMAS LAIN

LAIN, BURTON T ..age 40, of Irvine, passed away May 23, 1981. Survived by his wife, Patsy; son Ken and daughter Gaylene; mother Mamie Lain, Texas. Mr. Lain was a native of Amarillo, TX and a graduate of Cal State Fullerton. He was employed by the California Dept. of Corrections and had been active in youth baseball in Orange County for many years. Memorial services will be held at Northside Church of Christ, 2130 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana at 7:30 P.M., Thursday, May 28. The family requests for those who wish to make contributions to contact Hillview Acres Children's Home in Chino, CA. Directed by McDougall Family Mortuary, 543-9351



THE IRVINE WORLD NEWS/ JUNE 4/1981

A loss to the community

To the Editor -Irvine World News

Burt Lain, coach of the Irvine Youth Athletic Association Yankees, died over the Memorial Day weekend. His death is a direct loss to the team, and it also is a loss to our community.

As a father, I witnessed Burt teach his team several salient lessons by setting important examples for us all. He was, above all, kind and gentle.

He had a kind and encouraging word for each boy on the team. At games and practices he was enthusiastic and was also careful to share with each boy how much the youth had improved, emphasizing each one's strengths.

He taught each boy not to focus on his failures, but rather on improving.

Winning certainly wasn't everything to Burt. He taught the boys that they wouldn't always win, but that they should learn to play their best within the rules.

Burt's death also reminded me that death doesn't know how to distinguish those that are good from those that are bad. Death often takes those who devote their lives to the good of others and leaves the villains to continue to exploit others.

But let us learn that the bottom line is not the numbers on the scoreboard, but the gentleness, compassion and the positive way we encourage each other to do his best, ...as Burt did.

Eric Gruver