

# Yubi Separovich kept Solons in town in 1943

By Nancy Weaver Teichert  
BEE STAFF WRITER

Yubi Separovich, 89, who "saved" baseball in Sacramento in 1943 by keeping the Solons in town and went on to become the team's general manager, died Friday from cancer.

Mr. Separovich and former Sacramento Union sports editor Dick Edmonds got the money together to buy the Solons franchise from the Pacific Coast League, which had planned to move the team to Washington state.

Son George Separovich said his father and Edmonds formed a corporation to buy the franchise and sold stock to Sacramento residents eager to keep the team.

"They went door to door soliciting," recalled his daughter Ellyn Radich of Sacramento.

"They got business people and the average citizen who cared to contribute."

George Separovich said everyone was upset over the possibility of losing the team, which provided one Sacramento's few entertainment opportunities in the middle and late 1940s.

"Back then, it was a real big deal. It was like the Kings leaving," he said, remembering the stories he heard as a child.

"They were able to scrape up the money at the zenith hour, and they were able to keep them (the Solons) here," said Radich.

## OBITUARY

### Yubi Separovich

**Born:** June 10, 1915

**Died:** Feb. 11, 2005

**Remembered for:** Saving baseball in Sacramento by raising funds for the Sacramento Solons in 1943.



**Survived by:** His wife of 60 years Mae; daughter Ellyn Radich and son George Separovich of Sacramento; sister Stella Martin of Sacramento; five

grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Funeral services:** A Mass of Christian burial at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 4547 Pennsylvania Ave., Fair Oaks, today at 10:30 a.m. Entombment at St. Mary's Cemetery will be private.

Mr. Separovich was very proud of keeping the team and later served as general manager from 1945 to 1950, his son said.

There were other business successes and civic services to follow.

Mr. Separovich tried his hand at the carpet and liquor busi-

nesses before settling in as president of an industrial loan company.

He couldn't read music, but for a while he lead a dance band under the name of Yubi Wilson.

Mr. Separovich was active in several civic clubs, serving 45 years with the California Elks Lodge No. 6.

He rose to exalted ruler in 1959-60, district deputy grand exalted ruler in 1968-69 and president of the California-Hawaii Elks Association from 1972-73.

He also served as president of the Fort Sutter Lions Club.

He loved to golf at the Northridge and Del Paso country clubs.

He also was a founding member of the American Slavic Hall Association.

"He was a club person. He loved giving speeches," said Radich. "Nothing was handed to him. He was a self-made business entrepreneur."

Memorials may be made to Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95820, or to St. Patrick's Home for Children, 5945 Franklin Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95824.



Y. Separovich  
CLASS of 1933

• The Sacramento Bee

• Wednesday, January 19, 2005



**MORGAN, Brother Harry, F.S.C., "Brother Gary"**

At age 76, he gratefully reined his parents and his sister, Mary, in peace during the night of January 13, 2005. For close to 60 years he served faithfully as a Brother of the Christian Schools (Christian Brother) in San Francisco, Sacramento, Moraga, Berkeley, Concord and numerous overseas apostolates. During his long and storied career he touched the lives of countless men and women, many of them quite deeply. For the last 22-plus years he earned more than the gratitude of hundreds of Bay Area residents in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction through his rehabilitation program, Vaugliard Inc. He is survived by his brother-in-law, Raymond Campi, and his sons, Jim and Gary, daughters Laurel and Barbara and their respective spouses, Gina, Karen, Rich Odum and Robert Herrera, as well as their combined 10 children. In addition he leaves behind his adopted niece and nephew, Carol and Dennis Noad. By all of them, as well as with the host of unnamed men and women who are indebted to him, he will be sorely missed but forever remembered. There will be two Masses of Christian Burial held. The first Mass will be celebrated on Monday evening, Jan. 24 at 7:30 P.M. at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 62 Santa Rosa Ave. in San Francisco. It will be followed by a reception at the church. The second Mass will be celebrated at the Chapel of the Christian Brothers Monastery (Mont La Salle) 4401 Redwood Road in Napa. It will be followed immediately by an interment ceremony at the Brothers Cemetery on the grounds of Mont La Salle. A luncheon will be held after the cemetery service. Donations to The Grace and Harry Morgan Fund, P.O. Box 3720, Napa CA 94558-0372 are welcomed.

**SEPAROVICH, Yubi George**

Yubi went peacefully to be with the Lord, February 11, 2005. A native Sacramentan, he was born June 10, 1915. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years Mae, daughter Elynn Radich, and husband Joe, son George Separovich and wife Dorothy, and his sister Stella Martin, his grandchildren; Melinda Mesbah, Lori Roberts, Anna Fitzgerald, George Jr., and Aaron Separovich. He is also



survived by 6 loving great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. The family wishes to express their heartfelt thanks and deepest appreciation to Jane and Pua, Yubi's devoted caregivers. He was preceded in death by his first wife, the late Clara Bowen Separovich, his parents, the late George and Annie Separovich, his brother the late Richard Separovich. He was a graduate of Christian Brothers High School. Yubi has been a member of Sacramento, California Elks Lodge No. 6 since his initiation in 1941 and served actively for 43 years at the lodge, district, state and Grand Lodge level. He was the Exalted Ruler in 1959-60. He was District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler in 1968-69 and served as President of California-Hawaii Elks Association in 1972-73. Additionally, he served as President of the Fort Sutter Lions Club, the Lincoln Club of Sacramento Valley, Camellia Festival Association, Sacramento Council of Lions Clubs, Young Men's Institute, Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization, Charter President of Sacramento's Christian Brothers School Board of Regents, Past President of Northridge Country Club, Director of Sacramento Crime Alert, Director of Sacramento "Thumbs Up" Program, and was a member of Sacramento Sutter Club and Del Paso Country Club. He was a member of Korcula Club, the Over the Hill Gang and was proud to be a Founding Member and President of the American Slavic Hall Association. He was President of Atlas Thrift Company and was founder of and gave many speeches on "The Constitutional Rights of Private Organizations." He saved organized baseball for Sacramento and for a number of years was General Manager of the Sacramento Solons in the Triple A Pacific Coast League. He served for several years as Vice President of the Pacific Coast Baseball League. Friends are welcome for visitation at **W.F. GORMLEY & SONS CHAPEL**, 2015 Capitol Avenue, on Wednesday from 9:00am until 5:00pm and are invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial to be offered for the repose of his soul at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 4547 Pennsylvania Avenue, Fair Oaks, on Thursday at 10:30am. Entombment at St. Mary's Cemetery will be private. Memorials may be made in his memory to the Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King Jr. Bl., Sacramento, CA 95820 or to St. Patrick's Home for Children, 5945 Franklin Bl., Sac., CA 95824, or to a charity of your choice.