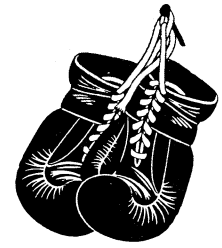


Ring 44 Inductee

STANLEY MYKA



Born on New Year's Day, January 1, 1921, Stanley Myka grew up in Buffalo's Polish Pride neighborhood on the east side. At a young age, Stan came down with scarlet fever and as a result, developed deafness. He spent his summer's growing up helping his Dad on their farm in East Wilson, New York, while attending and graduating from St. Mary's School for the Deaf. Unable to join the military at this country's time of need, Myka did the next best thing by taking a job as a welder in a local war plant. But needing a further outlet, Stan decided to try boxing, as boxing was a big sport in this town.

Training at Singer's Gym on Washington St. under Jack Singer's guidance, Stan fought for 3 years as an amateur middleweight, winning 22 fights with 4 losses. He reached the finals of the 1941 Niagara AAU Championship, losing a 3 round decision to the incumbent title holder, "Wild" Oscar Boyd. By 1943, Myka grew into a full-fledged heavyweight and turned pro.

The night of Stan Myka's pro debut, He attracted as much attention as the main event, between Walter Kolby and Armanda Sicilia. Stan was a strapping 6' 2", 185 lb. powerhouse, who punched with plenty of authority and seemed to have the most sought after requisite in a heavyweight with a fighting heart, winning his first pro fight with a knock-out against Freddie Salensky of Syracuse. He was always a big fan favorite and very well-liked by many. Stan was up against a lot of tough competition then as a pro heavyweight, fighting such names as Billy Adams, Rudy Zorich, Bearcat Jones and Jack O'Sullivan to name a few. He beat Al Mitchell 3 times, once by KO. He was also a sparring partner at Singer's Gym for many of the top fighters who came through Buffalo.

In 1947, Stan married his wife, Ursula, who was also deaf, they had 2 beautiful children, Stan Jr. and Sue Ann. They were happy living a beautiful life together. In June of 1948, Stan and his two friends had a tragic boating accident in Angola, where it had capsized. His friends survived but unfortunately Stan had drowned. The family and many friends along with the Buffalo boxing community were stunned and heart-broken to hear the news, he was only 27 years old.

Today, 68 years later, his fighting heart, determination and perseverance, in and out of the ring, will never be forgotten. As tonight, we are proud to Honor and Induct Stan Myka into Ring #44's Buffalo Boxing Hall of Fame.