

James Leonard Burst grew up in St Louis, Missouri, and came to Princeton from the John Burroughs School. He played freshman and J.V. football and basketball and joined Cannon Club but at the end of his sophomore year he went back to St. Louis to attend Washington University and set a number of still-standing football records including points scored, yards per carry, and more. He was drafted by the NFL but served three years in the Air Force stationed in Langley, Virginia, before going back to St. Louis to spend seventeen years with a family machine tool sales business. But Jim's real interest was sports and he joined with his brother to build a new career in indoor tennis facilities. That led, in turn, to an interest in horse racing and a stable of forty horses. Jim served also as an elder in the Presbyterian Church and taught a senior high Sunday school class for many years. He died on March 30, 2017, in St. Louis. Jim is survived by Nora Ross Burst, his wife of 63 years, and their three children and eleven grandchildren.

Christopher Webber '53, Memorialist