

Dec. 22, 2017

--FORMER USC ALL-AMERICAN RECEIVER AND COLLEGE HALL OF FAME HAL BEDSOLE DIES

LOS ANGELES--Hal Bedsole, a consensus All-American receiver on USC's undefeated 1962 national championship football team and a member of the College Football Hall of Fame, died today (Friday, Dec. 22) in Arizona. He turned 76 yesterday. He had been in declining health in recent years.

One of the original "big" (6-5, 221 pounds) wide receivers in college football, he was a 3-year letterman (1961-63) at USC and a 2-time All-Conference first teamer (1961-62). He caught 82 passes for 1,717 yards and 20 touchdowns in his Trojan career, all school records at the time. His 20.9 career average per reception remains a USC record (minimum 30 catches).

Nicknamed "Prince Hal" because of his self-assured, outspoken ways, he led the Trojans in receiving and scoring in 1961 (27 catches, 38 points) and 1962 (33 catches, 68 points). He was the first Trojan to have 200 receiving yards in a game (201 yards versus California in 1962, a school record which stood for 21 years). He caught 2 touchdown passes in USC's win over Wisconsin in the 1963 Rose Bowl. He played in the 1964 Coaches All-America Game, College All-Star Game and Hula Bowl.

He came to USC as a quarterback from Reseda High School, where he was the 1959 L.A. City Player of the Year, and Pierce Junior College.

A second round draft pick of the Minnesota Vikings, he played tight end there for 3 seasons (1964-66) and had 26 catches with 8 TDs.

He was inducted into the USC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001 and the College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

After football, he was a radio broadcast sales manager and was in business marketing.

He is survived by his mother and daughter.

Services are pending.