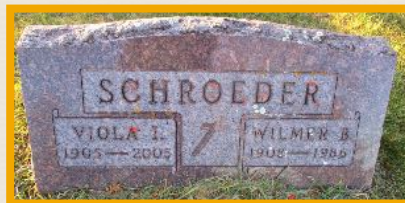


the FBI academy ... and graduate with honors ... was an inspiration. The sheriffs of Minnesota owe him more than they can repay.'

'The other side of Rip is that he was perhaps one of the most respected lobbyists the Minnesota Legislature had the pleasure of working with in the years he represented Minnesota sheriffs. He was a gentleman ... He was a diplomat,' said the October 25, 1986 *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*.



Although receiving numerous honors and awards in law enforcement and civic contributions, among his friends, Rip was known as “Giant of the Pigeon World”. Rip was a prolific writer of articles on the King breed of pigeons. He was past president of the National Pigeon Association and the American King Club and was secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota King Club for 25 years.

Rip Schroeder was also past president of the St. John's Lutheran Church council and congregation in Shakopee and a member of Faith Lutheran Church.

Wilmer Bryan Rip Schroeder died of cancer at age 77 in Gaylord, Minnesota on October 23, 1986. He was buried at Valley Cemetery in Shakopee. Rip's wife, Viola Iona Sudmann Schroeder, died on December 32, 2005, and was buried near her husband at Valley Cemetery.



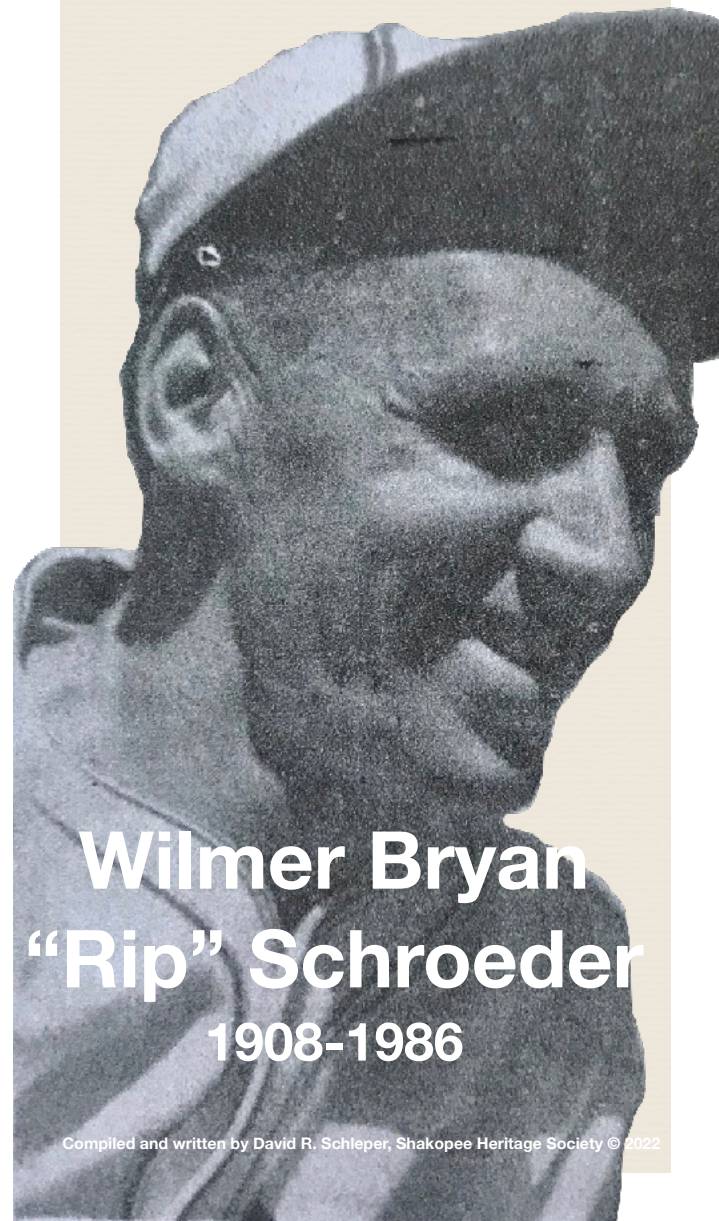
SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY
2109 Boulder Pointe, Shakopee, MN 55379

952-693-3865

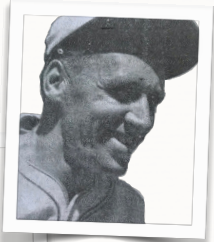
shakopeeheritage.org



SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY



Wilmer Bryan
“Rip” Schroeder
1908-1986



From professional baseball player and internationally known prized pigeon breeder to Sheriff, Wilmer Bryan Rip Schroeder is one that people remember.

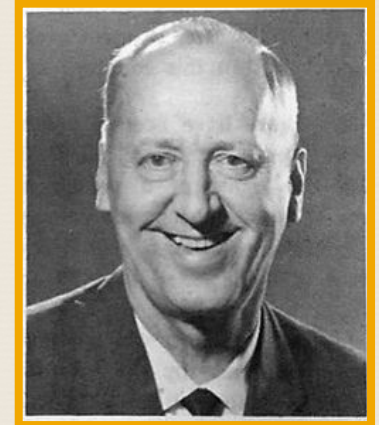
Wilmer, called Rip, was born on December 12, 1908 in Omaha, Nebraska. His parents were Frederick M. Schroeder (1885–1914) and Johanna Hannah Henriette Hamann (1886–1926.)

Rip Schroeder played baseball, basketball and football in high school in Omaha. In 1927, when he was 18, he signed a professional baseball contract with the St. Louis Browns of the American League. He spent 13 years playing minor league baseball. He was a member of the 1937 Columbus, Ohio, team that won the American Association pennant and playoffs.

Rip married Viola Iona Sudmann (1905–2005) in May 1, 1931 in Union, South Dakota. Vi was the daughter of Wilhelm Henry Friedrich Sudmann (1869–1943) and Wilhelmina Marie Felton (1872–1948.)



In late 1941, efforts were made to clean up illegal gambling that had been going on in Shakopee. Pictured are Sheriff J.P. Wermerskirchen and deputy W.B. "Rip" Schroeder with some slot machines that were confiscated and destroyed.



Wilmer Bryan Rip Schroeder played nine seasons as a minor league player, in Sioux City, Omaha, Des Moines, and Knoxville area.

Schroeder joined the sheriff's department after he injured his pitching arm.

Schroeder was sheriff of Scott County from 1951 to 1971, a county record. He was deputy sheriff for nine years before that and worked for the State Sheriff's Association as executive director for nine years after his retirement. In his five successful bids for sheriff, Schroeder was more often praised by his opponents than criticized. George Mankowski, who lost to Schroeder in 1962, called him 'one of the best sheriffs in the state,' said an article in the *Minnesota Star and Tribune* on October 25, 1986.

In 1953 Schroeder was elected president of the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, according to <https://www.scottcountymn.gov/1520/History-of-Sheriffs-Department>. Sheriff Schroeder was responsible for

modernizing the Sheriff's Office in many ways, including purchasing the first marked patrol car, implemented uniforms for deputies and himself (which made Scott County the first Minnesota County outside a metropolitan area to have uniformed sheriff's deputies), oversaw the building of the Scott County Public Safety Building in 1959, purchased a patrol boat, and started a radio dispatch headquarters for Scott and Carver Counties.

In 1955 Schroeder attended the FBI academy in Quantico, Virginia, according to Hennepin County Sheriff Don Omodt. 'For a sheriff in a rural county to attend

Rip Schroeder

Position: Pitcher

Bats: Both • **Throws:** Right

6-3, 175lb (190cm, 79kg)

Born: December 12, 1908 in Omaha, NE us

Died: October 23, 1986 (Aged 77-315d)

in Gaylord, MN

Buried: Valley Cemetery, Shakopee, MN

High School: Tech HS (Omaha, NE)

Full Name: Wilmer Bryan Schroeder