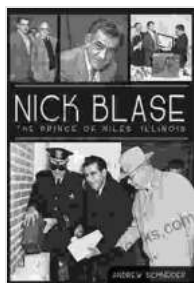


Nick Blase: The Prince of Niles, Illinois



Nick Blase: The Prince of Niles, Illinois by Andrew Schneider

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 2405 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 259 pages



The Early Years

Nick Blase was born in Chicago, Illinois, on October 15, 1932. His parents, Nicholas and Frances Blase, were Polish immigrants who instilled in him the values of hard work, determination, and giving back to the community.

Blase attended St. John Brebeuf Grammar School and Niles Township High School, where he excelled academically and was active in extracurricular activities. He was a member of the football and track teams and served as president of the student council.

After graduating from high school, Blase attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he studied civil engineering. He was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and served as president of the Engineering Council.

Blase Construction

In 1957, Blase founded Blase Construction, a general contracting firm specializing in commercial and industrial construction. The company quickly grew under his leadership, becoming one of the most successful construction firms in the Chicago area.

Blase Construction has been responsible for the construction of numerous landmark buildings in Niles, including the Niles Public Library, the Niles Police Department, and the Niles Fire Department. The company has also

been involved in major projects throughout the Chicago area, including the renovation of Wrigley Field and the construction of the United Center.

Community Involvement

Blase was deeply committed to the Niles community. He served as president of the Niles Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Rotary Club of Niles. He was also a major supporter of the Niles Community Service Award, which recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the community.

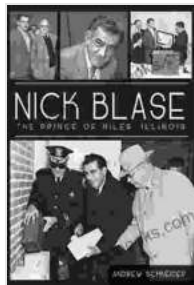
Blase's philanthropy extended to many other organizations, including the Niles Park District, the Niles Public Library, and the Niles Police and Fire Departments. He was a generous donor to the University of Illinois and was a major supporter of the university's civil engineering program.

Legacy

Nick Blase passed away on June 20, 2019, at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane, and his three children, Nick Jr., Mary Frances, and John.

Blase's legacy lives on through his family, his company, and the many organizations that he supported. He was a visionary leader who made a lasting impact on the Niles community. He will be remembered as a true Prince of Niles.

Nick Blase was a remarkable man who lived a life of purpose and dedication. He was a successful businessman, a generous philanthropist, and a tireless advocate for the Niles community. His legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.



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