

Joe Squair leaves gusto and spirit

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Joe Squair's first appearance at a Farmington Area Commission on Aging meeting last year remains vivid in chairperson Nancy Bates' memory.

"He had a sweatband on and a thing on his pants leg to keep it from catching on his bicycle," she said.

"He walked in and said, 'I'm sorry I'm late. I had brain surgery and I didn't know how bad transportation was until I couldn't use my car.'

"I rode my bike here," Mrs. Bates remembers Squair explaining to the surprised commissioners.

People who were close to him are far from surprised by the anecdote. Squair, 63, who died from a brain tumor Feb. 10, is remembered by family and co-workers for his courage and inspiration.

A few months after his initial appearance at the Commission on Aging's meeting, Squair was asked to join the group.

"He was absolutely incredible," said Ms. Bates. "He brought the commission insight and inspiration."

"THE WHOLE commission treasured him," she said.

Squair's interest in the problems of the aging and the inadequacies he perceived in local transportation prompted him to become active in the commission.

His participation in community affairs was varied.

He walked 10 miles each year for the Schoolcraft Patriots, a group dedicated to raising money for interest-free loans for college students.

As a member of the Wolverine Bike Club he rode the distance from Lansing to the Mackinac Bridge about three years ago.

After his brain surgery, he rode 25 miles for the Cancer Society.

"He was an all around man," his wife Marie, said.

"Even after he had brain surgery, he took trigonometry classes at Schoolcraft," said Squair's widow, Marie.

Before he underwent surgery last April, Squair devoted his time to taking his four children and 11 grandchildren camping, ice skating and swimming.

"You name it and he could do it," Mrs. Squair said of her husband's interest in outdoors activities.

Squair met his wife in 1959. They worked at an auto accessories factory.

They moved to Farmington Hills more than 25 years ago when Squair got a job as a tool and die maker for Ford Motor Co.

"HE WAS always an active man. He was a pretty healthy man. He took very good care of himself. He ran everyday," she said.

His cheerful attitude made him a memorable companion.

"I liked his humor," said Mrs. Squair. "Everybody liked him."

Loretta Conway, director of the Gathering Place and member of the Commission on Aging, was impressed by Squair's concern for others.

"It seems every time I saw him, he



Joe Squair and his wife Marie were partners who enjoyed life to the maximum.

helped me," she said. "He helped a lot of people."

"He was as courageous a person as anyone I ever knew," said Ms. Bates.

Squair and his wife were familiar

figures at aging commission meetings.

"He and his wife had a special relationship. She's a beautiful lady. I'm grateful to have known both him and his wife," said Ms. Bates.

City leaders debate highway alternatives

(Continued from page 1A)

way Commission but opposed by local public officials.

•McConnell's compromise would intersect with I-496 and be a four-lane, divided, limited access road. It would follow the present Haggerty Road to a point north of Pontiac Trail, then swing northwesterly and follow the right-of-way acquired for M-275. It would be narrower and slower than a freeway, and intersections would be at grade.

•Walled Lake's plan would start at the Novi Road intersection of I-96. It would follow Novi Road north, then swing around the east side of Walled Lake, roughly parallel to East Lake Road. North of the lake, it would follow Maple to Bernstein Road, then use Bernstein to the M-275 right-of-way, terminating at M-59.

WEST BLOOMFIELD Supervisor John Doherty said he "could live with" either the McConnell or Walled Lake plans. "Now there are only two north-south roads in the township that can reach regional centers—Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads—and they're not equipped to handle the traffic. I think everyone agrees we have to have a north-south road," said Doherty.

Farmington Hills City Mgr. George Majors said he favors the McConnell plan because it calls for an interchange with the freeway at Haggerty.

"There are six miles between the Orchard Lake and Novi roads interchanges," Majors said. "The only place to go north is the Orchard Lake exit. We become a traffic dumping ground. This may be a selfish point of view, but it's important for control of traffic in our community."

Softball league sign-up is set

South Farmington Baseball Inc. has scheduled its three registration days for the 1978 season.

All registrations to play softball will be taken at Farmington High School, 3000 Shawassee. Registration will be taken from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., March 4; 7 p.m.-9 p.m., March 8 and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., March 11.

Participation in the league is open to boys from 7 through 16 years-old. Girls should be between 8 and 17 years-old. League age is the age of the player as of July 31, 1978. Participants must live within the boundaries of Eleven Mile, Webster, Eight Mile and Haggerty.

Parents or guardians must accompany the player to registration and

birth certificates will be required for boys and girls who are applying for the first time.

Slide show on Reyes syndrome

In an effort to promote parental awareness of Reyes syndrome, the Farmington Area Jaycees will sponsor a 45-minute slide presentation and narrative at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 27.

Interested parents are invited to the showing in the auditorium of Farmington Hills Community Library on Twelve Mile.

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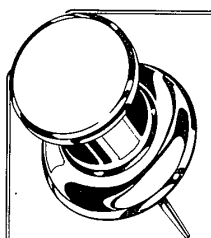
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