“Jack” Null, a native of Staunton, VA, was born on December 6, 1924, and participated in football, basketball and baseball throughout his years at Robert E. Lee High School. Then, in the fall of 1942, he entered Staunton Military Academy (SMA) as a Post Graduate where he was a stand-out in baseball and showed talent in a new sport, for him, as a member of the varsity boxing team.

In 1943 “Jack” entered the University of Richmond and became a three-sport athlete (football, basketball, and baseball.) As a sophomore during the 1945 football season at Richmond, and a two-way performer at center and linebacker, he made the Virginia All-State team weighing 152 pounds. He made the 2nd All-State AP team in 1946. He captained both the football and baseball teams in 1946 and 1947. After graduation, he served as freshman football, basketball, and baseball coach at the University of Richmond for four years before returning to SMA in the fall of 1951 for a three-year tenure as assistant football coach and head basketball and baseball coach. He also coached Kiwanis little league football in Staunton during the early 50’s. After leaving SMA, he coached at Lake Worth (Florida) High School and then went to VMI as head basketball and baseball coach (1955-1958) before he entered the real estate business in Richmond, VA.

While his passion for athletics never waned, it was in the real estate business and volunteer service where he made his mark. Establishing his own firm, Jack Null and Company, in 1964, he rose to be a leader in real estate as a director of the Virginia Association of Realtors (VAR), the Richmond Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and the Richmond Association of Realtors. “Jack” was named Realtor of the Year in 1987 and was the first chairman of PRO, a group of real estate companies in Richmond. He was described by associates and peers as “a guiding light for so many decades” and “one of the benchmarks that other realtors used to judge their own professionalism.”
“Jack” was a long time Caritas program coordinator at the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral. He also established youth softball and basketball teams at the church.

A founding member of the Richmond Sports Backers, he was a former director of the SMA Foundation and the Children’s Miracle Network Telethon, and served as a board member of the Richmond Chapter of the American Cancer Society.

In addition to being in the Staunton Military Academy Hall of Fame, “Jack” was inducted into the University of Richmond Hall of Fame in the Class of 1980-81.

Mr. Null passed away on May 8, 2003, and was survived by five children and seven grandchildren.

Excerpts of this biography were taken from a Richmond Times-Dispatch article written by Jenifer V. Buckman and published in the newspaper’s May 10, 2003 edition. Edits by Kelly McGavock, SMA ’59.