

Jim Musick

Football

Class of 1928

Musick played football at Santa Ana HS, where he gained “a measure of local fame” playing football there until his graduation in 1928.

He then went on to star as a fullback at USC. It was at USC he earned the nickname “Sweet” Musick as he helped lead the Trojans to two Rose Bowl victories and a national championship in 1931. As of 1992, Musick ranked 17th on the Trojans all-time career rushing list with 393 carries for 1,605 yards.

After graduating from USC in 1932, Musick signed with the Boston Brave – to be named the Boston Redskins in 1933 (now the Washington Redskins) – where he played for four season. Musick led the NFL in rushing in 1933 with 173 carries for 809 yards, an average of 4.7 yards per carry, along with five touchdowns. For these accomplishments he was named to the 1933 NFL All-Star Team. Musick returned to the Redskins in 1935 only to suffer what ended up being a career-ending knee injury three weeks into the season.

In 1986 he was inducted into the Orange County Sports Hall of Fame

While still a professional football player, Musick began working in the offseason as a deputy for the Orange County Sheriff’s Department. After retirement from the NFL, Musick took up law enforcement full-time except for a period during World War II when he served as a US Marine officer. In 1947 Musick won election to the first of seven consecutive terms as Orange County Sheriff, remaining at the post until retirement in 1975. He passed away December 15, 1992 while still living in Santa Ana.