

Charles "Steak" Miller was named to the Class B all-state team by the Waco Tribune-Herald after the 1937 football season becoming the first (known) all-state football player in Belton school history. He played football at Texas A&M before serving in the U.S. Army during World War II and owned his own construction company in Houston for many years before he died in 1995 at the age of 74.

Charles Maxwell Miller was born on Sept. 11, 1920, in Belton TX to Henry A. and Lillie Davidson Miller and was one of ten children who were raised in Belton. His mother died when he was very young and during high school he lived with his older sister, Claribel (the first woman deputy sheriff in Bell County history), who was married to Bell County Sheriff John R. Bigham.

Charles "Steak" Miller was a sophomore reserve (he did not win a "letter") on the 1936 Belton team that was 7-1-1 on the year and featured QB Forrest Sherrod (who later became the nationally famous sports editor "Blackie" Sherrod) and HB Richard Vannoy. He was a starting guard as a junior on the 1937 Belton team that won the district championship but lost to San Saba 33-7 in bi-district to finish 9-1 on the year. The Tigers were undefeated in the regular season averaging 36 points per game including blow-outs of 85-0 over Thorndale and 57-0 over Rockdale. The defense shut out 8 of its first 9 opponents allowing only 6 points (to Georgetown) for an average of only 0.7 points per game. Miller and End Jamie Wilson were the top offensive and defensive lineman for the Tigers while the top backs were Blackie Blackburn (who later played FB at Southwestern U.), Doyle McQueen and Ray Mulhollan (who played at A&M from 1939-1942).

In 1937 the Waco Tribune-Herald for the first time selected a Class B all-state team and named Miller as one of two guards while noting that "Steak Miller, fiery guard of Belton, who did so much to make Belton's five-man line possible, is also on the team. We got nothing but lavish praise for the ability of Miller. He must have done the most to bring Belton the district title." The all-state team featured QB Dean Bagley of San Saba (which beat Belton in bi-district) whom the Waco newspaper claimed was the leading scorer in Texas and in the nation with 268 points.

In Miller's final season in Belton, the 1938 Tigers were only 4-2-3 on the year and played three scoreless ties (with San Saba, McGregor and Cameron). The Waco Tribune-Herald did not name a Class B all-state team in 1938 and thus Miller did not have a chance to repeat his all-state honor from the prior season. However, he and teammates Jamie Wilson and Ray Mulhollan did play in the "Oil Bowl," an all-star game between East and West stars from Class B teams throughout Texas played in Wichita Falls on Sept. 4, 1939. Charles Miller graduated from Belton H.S. in 1939 and, with his friends and teammates, Ray Mulhollan and Jamie Wilson, went to A&M to play football. Miller and Wilson played only two years for the Aggies but Mulhollan played for four years---all three were squad members as freshmen on the 1939 Aggies' national championship team that was 11-0 on the year and beat Tulane 14-13 in the Sugar Bowl. In Aug. of 2005 the Killeen Daily Herald

named Charles Miller as honorable mention on its All-Time Centex defensive team.

Miller attended Texas A&M for two years (1939-1941) and majored in Agricultural Administration before leaving school in November of 1941 to join the U.S. Army. He served throughout World War II and, after the war, moved to Houston and worked for Brown and Root Construction Company before forming his own company, Spinoza Construction, which he operated until his retirement. He and his wife, Doris, had three children, Max, Susan and Melissa. Charles Miller died in Corpus Christi TX on May 6, 1995, at the age of 74 and was buried in the North Belton Cemetery beside his daughters Susan (1945-1957) and Melissa (1954-1988). His father, Henry A. Miller (1876-1942), is buried nearby. In 2001 his widow, Doris, and son, Max Miller, lived in Houston.