



Joseph A. Apicella **Class of 1960**

Joseph A. Apicella was a standout three-sport athlete at Milford High School, leaving his mark in cross country, basketball and especially baseball. The 1960 graduate was the embodiment of the term “student-athlete”- a member of the National Honor Society, Oratorical Contest winner, Student Council President and winner of the Gallagher Medal for the highest scholastic average for athletes.

Joe ran on the Cross Country team for four seasons under Hall of Fame Coach J. Francis “Fitter” Cahill. He also played four years of basketball for another Hall of Fame Coach, Charlie Espanet, and was the starting guard his senior year for a team that went 16-3 and won the Town Series for the fifth consecutive year over St. Mary’s. His ball-handling skills and pin-point passing helped two his teammates, Pat Laquidara and Ernie Kapatoes, score over 300 points each in the same season, the first time that feat had been accomplished at MHS. The team finished second place in the powerhouse Central Mass. Conference.

It was on the baseball diamond, however, that Joe left his mark. A slick-fielding shortstop, he earned the starting position as a freshman, a great achievement for a new-comer on a traditionally strong Milford team. A solid hitter, he often set the table as the lead-off hitter for the big guns in the order. He drove in three runs in an 8-0 victory over Charlestown in the Class B State Championship game in 1960, capping a season that saw the team also win the Town Series and Central Mass. Conference titles and finish with a record of 21-3.

Joe also played for the Powers Post American Legion team for three seasons, and was captain of the 1959 State Championship squad. He attended the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and earned a starting position at shortstop during his senior year.

Joe passed on his love and knowledge of baseball to many aspiring players as coach of the Powers Post American Legion team. He spent a total of 14 years in three different stints as Head Coach of the storied program. His teams won nine Zone Championships and went to the state finals five times over that period while amassing a record of 249 wins and 114 losses.



Anthony L. Chinappi **Class of 1964**

Anthony L. “Tony” Chinappi left his imprint on Milford High School as a student-athlete, coach and administrator. Following six seasons in the Milford Junior League Baseball program, Tony entered MHS in 1960 and made his mark on both the baseball diamond and the gridiron.

In football, Tony competed on the varsity level in each of his four years. He distinguished himself on defense as a linebacker, being selected on the Midland League All Defensive unit in both his junior and senior year. A co-captain with fellow Hall of Famer Allen Alves, he led the team to a very successful 7-2 season under Coach John Calagione.

Tony also was a four-year letter winner in baseball where, as a catcher, he worked closely with the pitchers and was a take-charge leader of the infield. He led the MHS nine to Midland League Championships and state tournament berths. He was named to the League All Star Team as a catcher all four years, an amazing accomplishment that may never have been duplicated. During that time he played for Hall of Famers Charlie Espanet and Joe Stoico, two outstanding coaches who “brought out the most of my ability and taught me to become a student of the game and how it should be played”.

During his high school career, Tony also played five years of Legion Baseball under Coach Pep Morcone, which, along with his MHS experience, prepared him for an outstanding baseball career at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst where he competed for four years, serving as co-captain his senior year. He distinguished himself by being selected to the Yankee Conference and ECAC 1st Team All Star Teams. In 1969, he led the then Redmen to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska, finishing fifth in the country that season.

Upon graduation, Tony returned to MHS as a teacher and coach. He was a member of the football staff for five seasons and coached varsity wrestling for two years. He was the Varsity Baseball coach for five years, highlighted by his 1972 team which reached the State Finals. Tony’s final athletic pursuit was as Director of Athletics from 1977-1982, during which time he promoted the expansion of the athletic program.