

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Andrew B. Altenburg '50



Andy was born in the Richmond Hill area of NYC. He was recruited to play basketball and received a scholarship to attend Power Memorial. As part of his recruitment, Andy requested that his two buddies, William (Willy) Franz and William Graham, come to play basketball with him-- they did; however, in their Sophomore year, only Andy went on to play Varsity while his 2 buddies played JV. Andy was the first "Powerite" to be selected to play with the All-Star game at Madison Square Garden, where the 12 outstanding Varsity Seniors from both Catholic and Public High Schools got to play in the NY Herald Tribune All-Star game. At Power, he was the high scorer (350, followed by the next highest scorers at 182 and 79) for the 1948/49 season and was awarded "Most Valuable Player" athletic award in Basketball during his Senior Year in 1950. We believe

that Andy held the highest number of points scored per session during his high school until Lew Alcindor's record in the 1960s. He was known as "Andy- A for Altitude" and "Alty"- #15. He graduated in 1950.

Andy was wooed by several colleges and settled on a full scholarship from University of Connecticut. Unfortunately, his college career was short lived because he was drafted in the Korean War. However, he played semi-pro basketball for some minor league teams such as Providence, Newark and Wilkes Barre spanning the years of 1950 – 1956.

In the Army, he served as Corporal in the Occupational Army in Ulm, Germany. Prior to Germany, he did boot camp in Ft. Hood, Texas. On his train ride from NY to TX, he met his sweetheart, Barbara, while she was traveling to California to visit her family. Upon return from the war, he and Barbara got married in November of 1954 and they had 5 children, four boys and one girl.

During his professional life, he had several jobs including, insurance agent, bill collector, office Manager for Borden, BASF and for Charles Revson, Founder of Revlon. But in the early 80's, Andy and Barbara started their own business, a courier company, with a mere \$5000 loan and one employee that morphed into a multi-million-dollar business that grew to over 85 employees and over 100 independent contractors. The business, DC Express, hosted offices in major cities and also included a Limousine service. Andy then went on to buy a 350,000 sq-ft Warehouse (the Old McGregor Shirt Factory in Dover, NJ) adding a "record-retention" business which housed hundreds of thousands of documents for companies like, NBC, ATT, Hoffman LaRoche and other big companies. Although the business is a little bit different these days with email/faxes and new technology, DC Express is still run by two of their sons.

Andy has always given back to the community. In his earlier years, he became the Baseball Commissioner of the Police Athletic League, Coached CYO basketball, built basketball and bocce ball courts for the neighborhood community and gave and participated in community and church events.

Andy and Barbara will be married 64 years in November. They have 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. They split their summers/winters between Maine and Florida.