

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

John Lovett, '69



John Lovett came to Power Memorial Academy by way of Holy Innocents Parish in Flatbush, Brooklyn. Joining the track team early on, he had the good fortune to train and grow in the sport with some of the best runners Power had in the mid to late '60's as his friends and teammates. At the same time, he was coached by both Mr. John Mulligan and Br. John Bielen, two of PMA's most successful track coaches, in his four years running for Power.

As one of Power's premier middle-distance runners of that era, John won many important races, both as an individual runner and as a member of a team. To name just a few, he was the 1969 Mayor's Cup 600 Meter Champion, a 3 time 880 Yard City Champion in his Freshman, Sophomore and Senior years, a member of the 1967 Cross Country City Championship team and he ran the anchor leg of the record breaking 2 Mile Relay Team at the 1969 Penn Relays. Not surprisingly, he was also named the Outstanding High School Athlete at those same Penn Relays.

John continued to run when he attended Manhattan College after he graduated from PMA. In his four years at Manhattan, he was a 5 time NCAA All American and a 2 time IC4A Half Mile Champion. He was named All-East 11 times and won four straight Metropolitan Championships in the 1,000 yards. At the 1973 NCAA Indoor Championships, John ran the opening half mile leg on Manhattan's Distance Medley Relay team that set a world record en route to also winning the national team title, Manhattan's first NCAA Championship in any sport.

In the years that followed, John went to work as a manager for the Allstate Insurance Company, retiring after 38 years. He and his late wife, Deborah, raised 2 children, Jessica and John and he is kept busy with his 2 grandchildren, Matthew and Monica. He presently resides in Rockaway Beach, Queens. John also served a successful stint as head track coach at Bishop Kearney High School in Brooklyn from 2000 to 2016 and has mentored individual Brooklyn/Queens champions in both indoor and outdoor track and field, as well as cross country. John is now in his fourth season as an assistant track coach at Manhattan College, working with longtime friends and running mates, Kerri Gallagher and Matt Centrowitz.

John says his success in life can be attributed to the education that he received at Power Memorial Academy and to all the wonderful people he came in contact with over those four years...his teammates, coaches and, especially, the Irish Christian Brothers.