At the age of four, Walt Novak's dad took him to him first Yankee game. When Joe DiMaggio rubbed his head, it began a love affair with baseball that has lasted seventy three years and grows stronger every day.

Under the tutelage of his dad, Novak became a pretty good outfielder. As a youngster, he played for the Hill/Amvets Little League. At 4' 9" and 72 pounds he needed an edge so he worked on his speed, his ability to catch fly balls (thanks to his dad) and his knowledge of the game.

Going to Sacred Heart grammar school, Novak played under Coach Bowen (who had faith in the little guy) and started him in centerfield. With a love of the big diamond and the game he excelled and it was on to Notre Dame High School in West Haven where he played for the legendary coach Ray Tellier where he learned to be held accountable for all his on and off the field decisions.

Going from one legend to the next, Novak went to Quinnipiac where he played for Burt Kahn. He was drafted in 1962 by the St. Louis Cardinals where he played minor league ball for a few years.

He began his coaching career at Holy Cross, started the baseball program in New Fairfield and after a tour in Viet Nam as a Combat Medic, Novak had several other baseball involvements until he landed the head coaching job as Branford High School where he won a State Championship, 5 Housatonic Championships and one SCC Championship. His team also ranked third in New England.

Novak then moved on to be an assistant coach at Career High School for more than ten years. At Career, the team was in the Class S but played a competitive schedule against mostly LL teams. They reached the State tournament in all but one year and Walt received the Assistant Coach of the year award.

The last few years, Novak has returned to Branford as a pitching coach and continues to give private lessons. He is grateful to his grandchildren; Ricky, Heather, Nicole, Carl & Kellie for letting him be a part of their lives both on and off the field. He is grateful to his wife Dottie and he thanks God for everything in life.