John DeFrancisco was born and raised in Derby, Connecticut and is a 1964 graduate of Derby High

School. Following high school, John attended Fairfield University where he received his Bachelor of Arts

degree in English in 1968. He continued his education at Fairfield and received his Masters degree in

secondary school education in 1972 and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in 1976.

He began teaching at Derby High School in the fall of 1976 and continued to do so for thirty eight years, retiring in 2006. John currently works as a substitute teacher at the high school a few days a week.

In 1991 John received the Greater New Haven Diamond Club Area High School Coach of the Year Award.

He began coaching baseball at Derby High School in 1972 at the freshman and junior varsity levels until

becoming the head coach in 1987. John remained the head baseball coach until 1996. During his tenure

his teams qualified for the state Class S tournament five times.

 In 1992 DeFrancisco’s team captured the State Class S tournament title and repeated this feat in 1996. He amassed eighteen wins during the 1991season, nineteen wins during the 1992 season, and fifteen wins during the 1996 season. DeFrancisco’s career varsity record totaled one hundred twelve wins and one hundred eight losses.

DeFrancisco has been married to the former Nancy Kelley for the past thirty eight years. They have two

daughters Jessica and Jennifer. Jessica is married to Joseph Schryver and they have a two year old son,

Matthew. Jessica is a preschool special education teacher in Middletown and Jennifer works as an

insurance broker at Beacon Retiree Benefits Group in Plantsville.

He considers being inducted into the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Hall of Fame a humbling honor that he will cherish forever. To be recognized by your peers for this honor makes it more meaningful and significant