

**Donato James “Jim” Mandarano**  
**Inducted June 27, 2008**

**Athlete - Class of 1955**

Jim Mandarano participated in five varsity sports during his high school athletic career which included: 3 years of soccer, 3 years basketball, 3 years of baseball, 3 years of volleyball and 3 years of track & field. He was also a captain on each of these teams.

Jim was an excellent basketball player. His defensive rebounding abilities and unselfish playmaking directly influenced the success of the 1955 basketball team. Jim scored 439 points in three seasons of basketball, however his most memorable points were scored on a half court, game winning, “buzzer-beater” that kept a 22 game unbeaten streak alive. He was, also, a key player in the soccer program and scored 17 goals in three years. An excellent pitcher and hitter, he helped lead the baseball team to three Cortland County League Championships. In track and field he held the school record in the 440 yard dash.

Jim lived his life like a true athlete; constantly challenging his ability in the effort to improve. He always exhibited good sportsmanship, concern for others, a positive attitude and put forth exceptional effort. After graduation, Jim served in the US Army during the Berlin Crisis of 1958-1962.