



Brother Basilian was born in the Town of Killybegs in Ireland on a sunny July day. He joined the Brothers and was assigned to LaSalle in Troy in 1942. While there, Brother was known for his sunny disposition, zeal as a teacher and his untiring efforts to get every boy interested in some intramural activity. A few years later, Brother was transferred to the new Christian Brothers Academy in Lyncroft, New Jersey, where he became the schools first athletic director from 1959 - 1962. During the infancy of the program, Brother Basilian molded a first rate cross country and track team. During the first year of competition, the track teams coached by Brother Basilian won several championships and over 75 medals.



Besides these accomplishments in interscholastic sports, Brother Basilian set the foundation for a very active physical training program better known as PT. It was through his PT program that practically every boy in the academy participated in some extra curricular sport. In executing his program, Brother B created a bond of unity with his boys. This close association between Brother and the students was the basis for the schools code of good sportsmanship. At any athletic event, Brother Basilian was the indefatigable controlling influence, walking joyfully along the path of duty. His profound encouragement gave the students untold strength to push on.

In 1962, it was our good fortune to have Brother B was transferred here to CBA.

During the six years that he spent here, he undoubtedly touched the lives of all the students he came in contact with, and as some of us remember he touched our lives quite literally. At CBA, Brother B served in many capacities. As a teacher of math, there was no one more demanding. As an athletic director, there was no one more respected. As a track coach, there was no one more enthusiastic. As a supporter of our students and their activities, there was no one more proud, as a person who worked to beautify our campus, there was no one more energetic.

In 1968, Brother Basilian left CBA to teach and coach at Sacred Heart High School in Yonkers. At the time, Coach Jerry Riordan commented that “The loss of Brother will hurt our track program as well as those of many other schools in Central New York. He has been connected in one way or another with every form of the sport in this area - at both the high school and university levels and there is no likely successor for him.

He returned to us in 1987 to retire, and I use that term loosely. In 1992, the CBA Students dedicated their yearbook to Brother B. The students wrote “What is the driving force behind CBA Pride? If there was ever one person who embodied this spirit at CBA it is Brother Basilian. Brother works hard around the school because he cares for the students and he cares for CBA. Bro. B is a quiet, reserved man who shows a lot of respect for everyone he knows. He is a companion, counselor and friend. He is an essential part of what has made CBA the fine, upstanding institution that it is today. Everyone loves him. Brother is an enlightened man who treats everyone with kindness and respect.”

Thus, it is certainly proper and fitting that a gentleman who has done so much for others be inducted into the Lasallian Hall of Fame. Brother is unable to be with us tonight, but accepting his award will be Brother Basilians’ close friend, Brother John Loehr.

