We start the evening with our youngest inductee. It was 1993 and CBA was in its sixth year of being a coeducational school. Athletic programs for the girls were being added based on interest and in the Fall of 1993 CBA added girls swimming to its growing list of sports. For one girl from Enders Road Middle, although at the time that didn’t mean much, in a few short years she would help take that fledgling program and make it one of the most respected in the area.

But let it be known, swimming had very little, if anything, to do with Lisa’s coming to CBA. She was a very serious and gifted student. With both parents as doctors, she was taught to value her education and took pride in doing well in the classroom. Her accomplishments speak for themselves. She graduated as Class Salutatorian (currently an honor bestowed on the second ranked student in the class) and was the president of the National Honor Society. She was a National Merit Finalist and received numerous awards and scholarships including being CBAs’ nominee for the Wendy’s High School Heisman award. Oh yeah, or excuse me, In addition, received a perfect verbal score on the SAT’s!!!

Before coming to CBA, Lisa was casual swimmer, swimming for her Calvary Club team. She was introduced to the world of CBA Swimming by Marisa D’Orazio who was a lifeguard at the club during that time. So when Lisa came in as a seventh grader she was one of 27 girls grades 7 – 12 who would carry the torch for the CBA Swim Team… That year, Lisa swam well enough to qualify for sectionals but it was after that season that Lisa became dedicated to the sport. After the season, Coach Pete O’Neill suggested that Lisa swim all year round. And the rest is history… The focus that she showed in the classroom carried over to the swimming pool and her intense off season training immediately paid dividends. For the next four years, Lisa reshaped, actually I guess she shaped the face, or I guess more accurately was the face of CBA Swimming and Diving. During that time, the team enjoyed tremendous success. They won three sectional championships and had numerous swimmers qualify for the state meet. But Lisa was the highest profile. In 1997 she broke the Section III record in the 100 yard backstroke. Then at the state meet she became the first, and still the only, female in CBA history to win an individual state championship. She set the state record with a time of 58.24. At the time of her graduation, Lisa held school records in 7 of the 11 swimming events contested including one that still stands today. She qualified for the state championships, was named team captain and team MVP in her
sophomore and junior years. Quite an impressive list of accomplishments. But what Lisa brought to CBA Swimming and Diving goes well beyond times swam, races won, and records set. While no one athlete can define a team in any sport, Lisa was instrumental in developing a tradition of success at CBA Swimming and Diving.

Pete O’Neill shared that Lisa showed that through determination and an incredible work ethic, anything was possible. For a team that began competing solely as CBA in 1993, to not only want the level of success she did, but then attain that success, set the tone for much of the individual and team success that CBA Swimming and Diving enjoyed in the following years.

She also showed tremendous leadership. Whether it was always wanting to be the one to anchor the final relay with the meet on the line or being the one to finish the hardest of practices while encouraging her teammates, it was her leadership that again was instrumental in developing a tradition of success within CBA Swimming.

Lisa did not swim her senior year at CBA. Instead she continued her serious training in hopes to make it to the Olympic trials. She would swim twice a day, six days a week and still was able to maintain her impressive GPA. Although the trials eluded her, she did continue her swimming career at Princeton University. There she was part of one of the most successful runs in school history. During her four years on the swim team, they never lost an Ivy League Meet. The teams record 35 – 1 and the teams won Ivy League championships in each of those four years. For her efforts, Lisa was named all Ivy in her senior year.

Lisa, you always represented yourself and CBA in a positive manner. Your hard work and dedication to the CBA Swimming and Diving program helped lay the ground work for the success that our team enjoys even today. Tonight, please accept this award and take your rightful place among CBA’s top athletes.