Loyalty and Service. Two words that are contained in the description and inscription on most awards presented at athletic banquets throughout the country. Throw in dedication and you can be reasonably assured that one of those words is contained in just about all award descriptions. So I thought I would see how the dictionary. Remember those, just for the young people; a dictionary was a book that defined words, before google was around. So back to the dictionary

Dedication = devoted to a cause, ideal, or purpose

Loyalty = having or showing complete and unwavering support for someone or something

Service = contribution to the welfare of others

So when you put all of this together and you get a definition….Dedication, Loyalty and Service… devoted to the cause, showing complete and unwavering support of that cause by contributing to the welfare of others. An accurate description of our next inductee’s commitment to CBA.

Now Randy Kinn was the oldest of the three children of Paul and Louise Kinn. There was a connection of the Kinn family to CBA. Paul attended CBA for a year or two but unfortunately was forced to withdraw because of his family’s inability to meet the $35 tuition. He vowed not to have that happen to his son. Randy had many of his relatives attend, the Adornatos, the Rachellas and so finally in 1970 Randy make his way to Randall Road and his father was more than capable to pay the annual tuition of just under 500 dollars.

When Randy started at CBA, he did play a little football and ran (or participated in) track. However, he realized quickly that being on the playing field was not best suited for him. He loved CBA and supporting its sports teams, but what he really loved was being a PART of teams. Most of us had a little push to help us get started and channeled in the right direction. For Randy, the pusher was Jerry Riordan. He used some
connections at Syracuse University to get Randy an internship in the training room. At that time, it wasn’t the high-powered facility it is now… and they welcomed the help. Therefore, throughout his high school days he did double duty. He would cover as many CBA sporting events as possible and still do his work in the training room at SU. That even continued in reverse when he attended SU. Randy would often come back to help at games. Upon graduation, a position opened at CBA and Gary Barnaba convinced Brother William to hire Randy. The rest is history.

When Randy started at CBA, he taught Phys Ed and Health, positions he held for the next several years. But at the end of the day, he was doing what he liked best, working with our young athletes keeping them safe and healthy. Now at the time, sports medicine as a profession was strictly exclusive to college athletics. Not much thought was given to the care of athletes at the high school level. In fact, Randy was the first high school trainer in the area.

Randy was acknowledged for his efforts. In 1981, he was named the top high school trainer in the state by the Eastern Athletic Trainers Association. They also used him as a model for schools to show the need for athletic trainers in high schools.

In 1989, Randy received the NHL SERVICE AWARD for his research in ice hockey on head, neck and face injuries. He received the OHSN service award in 1992 for his contributions to the league. In 2004, he was honored by the CBA Alumni Association by receiving the association’s highest honor, the Purple and Gold Award.

Over the years, Randy’s job has changed and duties have been added and subtracted. At different points in his career, aside from his teaching and trainers duties, he was given the responsibility to coordinate activities at the new Alibrandi Stadium. He took care of the athletic fields, mowing, aerating, watering and fertilizing them. The 80’s and 90’s alumni probably remember him lining the fields, sometimes with not so straight lines. He was and still is responsible for issuing, collecting and storing uniforms and equipment. That “and other” in his job description has really been taken advantage of!

Randy has worked with thousands of athletes over the last 40 years. Any student athlete injured since the 70s has been taped or treated by him. However, Randy Kinn means so much more to CBA than taping ankles or lining field. You see Randy has a unique connection with our student athletes that not many adults have. Spend some time in the training room at the stadium and you’ll understand what I mean. After our athletes figure out that his bark is worst than his bite, and realize how much he cares about all of them, you see the bond take hold. Our athletes are relaxed there, they open up to him and he ends up being their sounding
board, psychiatrist, counselor and most importantly their non-judgmental friend. Randy has been an important part of the CBA athletic program in a career that spans five decades. A comment on one of the nomination forms in support of his induction put it simply and succinctly… “Ask anyone who has played varsity sports in the last 40 years at CBA and they would tell you that Randy deserves to be in the Hall of Fame.”

Randy, you have dedicated your life to CBA and to the care and protection of its student athletes. It is obvious that you care deeply about CBA and all of its student athletes. Tonight we get the opportunity to show you how much the CBA community cares about you. Please take your long overdue place in the Lasallian Hall of Fame.