

*John W. Obermayer*

*Class of 1951*

*Columbia High School*

John W. Obermayer is currently retired but serves on a volunteer basis at the Genet Elementary School as an aide/consultant/confidante to the youth in that building. Previous to this he served a brief stint as a business teacher at Columbia High School from 1959-1962. In 1962, he joined the Equitable Life Insurance Company where he served as Assistant Director Manager. John's last employment service was with the New York State Education Department's Bureau of Occupational Education where he devoted 27 years of faithful service.

John graduated from Columbia High School in 1951, where he started on the basketball team for 3 years. John enlisted in the United States Navy after high school serving his country from 1951-1954. John matriculated at Siena College in 1954 and distinguished himself as an outstanding talent on that school's basketball team, serving as captain in his senior year. He completed his formal education in 1959, by obtaining his Master's degree at the State University of New York at Albany.

John's love of athletics and the skillful use of his talents in sports has not only brought him recognition as a member of Siena College's Athletic Hall of Fame but perhaps more importantly as a mentor and role-model to our youth.

John's leadership and involvement with young people and in athletics has seen him in the role of junior varsity coach at the former Vincentian Institute in 1959; as an East Greenbush Little League coach and umpire coordinator; for twenty years as mentor/coordinator of the Summer Basketball program; as CYO basketball coach and as chairperson of the Siena Invitational Tournament. In 1985, he was recognized for his continued support of the Columbia High School Basketball program by having that year's program book dedicated to him. John is a multi-dimensional individual. His talents are not limited to the athletic arena alone. For the last four years he has volunteered his services at the Genet School as an aide/mentor assisting students in overcoming both academic and emotional obstacles. As testimony to his effectiveness, a quote from one of his "charges" says it all: "Mr. Obermayer is very cool and he helps me with my math, ELA and other cool stuff...I learned my times tables because of him...He is funny too." In addition to his many credits, John has also been awarded Siena's *Benjamin Kuhn Distinguished Alumni Award* (1978).

It is therefore with great pride that the East Greenbush Education Foundation honors and extends its congratulations to John W. Obermayer upon his induction into the Columbia High School Alumni Hall of Fame.