



# March 25, 2002 Wyandotte Distinguished Graduate Inductee



## Jenny A. Romatowski Class of 1946

The opportunities available in the community of Wyandotte and at Theodore Roosevelt High School helped pave the way for 1946 graduate Jenny Romatowski's unique career path. For nine years following high school (1946-1954) Jenny played baseball for the Kalamazoo Lassies in the All American Girls Professional Baseball League, which was later the subject of the popular movie, "A League of Their Own." Multi-talented, Jenny Romatowski played three different positions - catcher, third base, and outfield.

After the League folded in 1954, Romatowski played for a U.S. Field Hockey Association team in 1958, '64, '65, and '66. She also edited the Field Hockey Rules and Guidebook and was Vice-President of the U.S. Field Hockey Association for four years.

Her athletic career did not go unnoticed. A member of five Halls of Fame, Jenny is one of only two women to have been inducted into the Wyandotte Sports Hall of Fame. She has also been honored with membership in the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York; the Michigan Amateur Sports Hall of Fame; the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame; and the Eastern Michigan University Hall of Fame.

Romatowski credits her hometown, Wyandotte, with giving her the basis for her athletic career. She recalls the many sports opportunities for young women as well as young men. She speed skated for the Wyandotte Recreation Department team and played softball in city leagues from the time she was 12 years old, including the Class A Wyandotte Chemicals.

At Roosevelt she participated in the Girls Athletic Association, serving as president her senior year. She also worked in the photography lab and on the stage crew during high school.

Romatowski's baseball career paid her way through college at Michigan State Normal School (now Eastern Michigan University) where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education and a teaching certificate. She earned a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Michigan. Her teaching career spanned thirty years, two in Detroit and 28 at Lincoln Junior High School in the Warren Van Dyke District. Romatowski also taught at Macomb Junior College. Now retired, Ms. Romatowski resides in Florida.