

EUGENE CARACCILO

CLASS OF 1955



Eugene Caraccilo graduated from Mynderse Academy in 1955. While under the guidance of Mynderse Hall of Famer Coach George Davis, Eugene was considered one of the greatest football players to come out of Mynderse. In the four years he played varsity sports (1951-1955) he was largely responsible for the great success the football, basketball and baseball programs experienced.

Gene was a 4-year starter on the Varsity Football team at Mynderse Academy as a 135 lb. running back. He was instrumental in the team's 4-year success, winning 4 League Championships with a career record of 30-2. Gene's senior year was a stellar year. He was selected as a National High School All-American, All-State (Honorable mention his sophomore year), All-League for the 3rd year, awarded Most Valuable Player of the team and was chosen as team captain. He ended his high school career against Waterloo with a score of 47-0 where Gene scored 5 touchdowns and kicked 4 extra points for a total of 34 points. He averaged 10 yards a carry and held a school record of 45 career touchdowns for a total of 272 points.

Gene was also a standout athlete in baseball. His career consisted of being a 4-year starter at short stop with a batting average of .400. He led his team to 3 League Championships and 3 Section V Championships. His 4-year career consisted of 61 wins and 7 losses.

While attending Mynderse Academy, Gene also played Varsity Basketball where he was team captain, selected All-League, and led his team in scoring. During his senior year, Gene was president of "Block M", served as a member of student council and was awarded the Babe Ruth Award.

Upon graduating from Mynderse Academy, Gene served in the Army where he was assigned to Special Services playing football and baseball for the 11th Armored Cavalry Blackhorses Regiment in Germany. Gene played shortstop for the baseball

team. His team won the US Army Eastern League Championship in Europe, advancing to the GI World Series Final Four. Upon being discharged from the Army, Gene went on to play semi-pro baseball and basketball for several years.

Gene currently lives in Ithaca. He is retired from Cornell University where he was employed for 35 years. Judy, his wife of almost 50 years, passed away earlier this year. He has a daughter Andrea and a granddaughter Angelica.