

Marcia Lois Beake  
Jim Kane Community Impact Award  
1964-1967

The winner of the 2023 Jim Kane Community Impact Award is the wonderful Marica Beake.

Mrs. Beake is the wife of the highly successful Nyack Football Coach John Beake (NHSAHOF '23). During Mrs. Beake's four year tenure as the chief cheerleader of the Nyack Indians Football Team and the wife of this legendary coach, she never missed one of our games, even the "MUD BOWL" with Spring Valley in 1966. She followed the team everywhere. All 32 games that Coach Beake coached- she was always present. Cheering us on and after the games was always at the bus, win or lose giving us support. But just rooting for your team and seeing them play is not all that uncommon. What distinguished Mrs. Beake was the behind the scene support of the football teams.

Every Sunday Coach had some of the senior starters over to watch game films, and every Sunday Mrs. Beake would cook us dinner! Usually Italian food, much to the delight of all that were present. Not only that, but the field house where the varsity changed had cookies delivered on occasion. More important was Mrs. Beake's devotion to Coach in which she created a home life that was an inspiration to all us young men. I can think of the expression "behind every great man, there is a great woman." Marcia embodied that at a time that few could recognize all her contributions. I remember thinking, that is the type of woman you want to marry.

Her community activities did not end with the football team. Marcia taught tennis at the Nyack Field Club and substitute taught in the Nyack Middle School for 4 years. She was also a volunteer preschool teacher at a local church during this time. She did get involved with some of the players who got into trouble, working with Coach to assist them with their problems.

In conclusion, she was a guiding influence to the members of the Nyack HS community. After leaving Nyack, when Coach was in New Orleans, she started Booster Groups and Field Days and got involved in Drug education, which she took to the Denver community. Her game was Tennis and she was a level 5 Champion in Colorado. All-around, Marcia Beake is "a woman of substance" and is most deserving of this award. *(Told by Pat D'Auria, Class of 1967)*