



**Eugene J. DeSoiza  
Inducted 1999**

Eugene J. DeSoiza's life best echoes this sentiment. His flame of excellence blazes a trail for all in the community to aspire. Upon leaving his beloved Alma Mater in 1973, Gene, as he is affectionately called, attended Iona College graduating with a B.B.A. in Marketing.

His scholastic success and great determination allowed him to thrive professionally. His illustrious business career began in 1977 with the Xerox Corporation. In 1984, Gene expanded his horizons joining the investment firm, Kidder Peabody, Inc. Currently, he has mastered his greatest challenge as First Vice President with Salomon Smith Barney in White Plains managing 115 million dollars in assets for a retail clientele.

Gene's leadership is also evident in his dedication to Archbishop Stepinac High School. He has been an active member of the school's alumni association for many years. With the assistance of a core group of alumni, Gene founded one of the first fund raising events for the school, the annual Archbishop Stepinac Alumni Golf Outing. This event has provided necessary financial support for the school and her programs. Gene's desire to serve his alma mater is limitless. Currently, he is the financial advisor of the Stepinac Executive Development Board. Whenever the Office of Advancement and Alumni Affairs is in need of assistance, they know Gene is eager to help regardless of however busy his schedule may be.

His willingness to serve also reaches his community. Gene's philosophy can be best described in the words of the ultimate teacher, Jesus Christ. "Whatsoever you do for the least of my people that you do unto me." His annual Christmas Toy Drive for the Cardinal McCloskey Children's Home brings joy and hope to many of the underprivileged. In his hometown of Eastchester, Gene coaches soccer, basketball, and little league baseball. Furthermore, he currently serves as a member of the Board of Governors for the New York Athletic Club.

Gene's distinguished character also manifests itself in his most coveted role as a devoted husband to wife Susan and loving father of two children - Diana (11) and Andrew (9). He is already grooming a future crusader! Every June, you will find Andrew at Stepinac celebrating his birthday with classmates and friends.

Archbishop Stepinac High School is proud to honor this quintessential Stepinac man and is truly grateful for his many acts of kindness and loyalty. May his light continue to burn brightly as the model of an authentic Christian gentleman for future generations of Stepinac Crusaders.