

## 90 honored on Wilmington

By JIM PARKS

Special to The News Journal

WILMINGTON — More than a generation has passed since Wilmington High School's stately brick buildings on Delaware Avenue were torn down. The school itself is now being phased out. But Peter Grandell is determined that 125 years of Wilmington High tradition shall not die.

Grandell, a 1938 graduate who returned to spend 48 years there as a teacher, counselor and coach before retiring in 1995, said it will survive in the accomplishments of the men and women whose lives were true to its motto, "Enter to learn; go forth to serve."

"Before the school goes down the tubes, we want to make sure we never lose sight of the contribution it has made to society through those who were educated there and did go out to serve in conspicuous ways," he said.

On Friday, Grandell helped preside over the induction of 90 Wilmington High graduates who have left their marks to the school's Wall of Fame. The free-standing display of photographs and biographical texts is intended to be a



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Inductees and guests admire the Wall of Fame in the lobby of the school at Lancaster Avenue and DuPont Road.

permanent feature in the lobby of the building at Lancaster Avenue and DuPont Road.

Opened in 1960 as Wilmington

High's fifth home, the building now houses the Charter School of Wilmington and the Cab Calloway School of the Performing Arts as

Harold

# High's Wall of Fame



John Piner, of the class of 1969, looks at old photographs before the ceremonies Friday.

well as the last two Wilmington High classes. Wilmington High was founded in 1872 in separate buildings for boys and girls at Sixth and French streets and

Third and Washington streets. They were consolidated at Eighth and Adams streets before moving to Delaware Avenue and Adams in 1899.

Chase Manhattan Bank, whose office building now occupies the Delaware Avenue site, contributed about \$16,000 for the Wall of Fame.

"I don't oppose change or the concept of a school within a school, but I hope, at least, this edifice [the Lancaster Avenue building] will forever be recognized as the Wilmington High building no matter what's inside it," Grandell said.

"I also hope someone will come along to add more deserving people to the Wall of Fame in the years to come," he said.

Grandell's sentiments were shared by a clear majority of the nearly 200 honorees, family and invited guests who spent Friday evening reminiscing at the reception.

"Wilmington High gave me the greatest foundation anybody could have," said William Ott, class of '27, who earned his law degree through correspondence school and, although deemed unqualified to practice, went on to teach and

write several business law textbooks.

Demetrio Ortega, '72, a Wilmington City Councilman, recalled that he went there to learn English after coming from Peruto Rico.

"This is a wonderful idea. It's a great to have such a cross-section of graduates represented," said William Kapa, '48, retired Wilmington and New Castle County parks and recreation director.

United Methodist Bishop Ernest Lyght, whose 1961 class was the first to graduate from the Lancaster Avenue building, said his inclusion in the exhibit was "fulfilling."

"This is great, but I wish the school would come back," said Rita Crowley, '71, a Wilmington police captain.

Charles Burns, '43, a sports illustrator and gymnastics coach who worked with Grandell to organize the exhibit, recalled that he met his wife, Jackie, when they had side-by-side lockers as students.



## NINETY WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

The Wilmington High School Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held Oct. 3 at the school. The first inductees:

**Johnny Aiello**, national champion bantam-weight boxer; **Martin Apostolico**, football coach at Pittsburgh Central High School and Dickinson High School; **Clifford Armstrong**, deputy chief of operations, Wilmington Fire Department; **John Bablitz**, mayor of Wilmington, 1961-69; **William Bancroft**, associated with Bancroft Mills and the production of Everlast fabric; **Naomi Corie Bender**, swimmer; **Red Cross**, instructor for 40 years; **Januar Bove**, Wilmington city solicitor, Delaware attorney general, and founder of Bove and Lodge law firm; **John Bove**, football coach; **James Brown**, track and football coach; **Alexis I. du Port**, High School; **Charles Burns**, sports illustrator and gymnastics coach; **Earl Burns**, businessman, golfer and Goldley Beacom College basketball coach; **Frances Carter**, Rhodes scholar; **Albert "Buddy" Clark**, coach and athletic director, Mount Pleasant High School; **Dr. I. Lewis Chipman**, philanthropist; **Paul Chadick**, professional basketball player; **Capt. Rita Draper Crowley**, first female captain in Wilmington Police Department.

**Danny DiPace**, basketball and baseball player; **Gerald Doherty**, director of athletics, University of Delaware; **J. Harner Donaldson**, Wilmington High football player and coach; **David Douglas**, professional golfer; **Lynda Dyson**, pianist and teacher; **Joey (Florent) Furey**, movie producer; **William P. Frank**, editor, columnist, radio commentator, Delaware historian and actor; **Estelle Franklin**, violin teacher; **Dr. Victor H. Harry Levin**, founder of the Hospital for Joint Diseases Orthopaedic Institute, New York City; **Dr. Bruce Frederick**, author of gymnastic-related articles, member of National Hall of Fame for coaching and literary contributions to gymnastics; **Gerald "Jerry" Galuccio**, founder and owner of Galuccio's Cafe, Delaware Restaurant Association member; **Martin Golden**, state pharmaceutical control officer; **Dr. Peter Grandell**, athlete, coach; **Peter Grandell Jr.**, football and softball coach at Howard Career Center; **Bauby Gater**, World War II Army veteran who survived two days adrift on a raft in the Pacific Ocean; mechanical engineer for the DuPont Co.

**Thomas Herdity**, mayor of Wilmington, 1945-47; **Daniel L. Herrmann**, chief justice of Delaware; **Charles Hindstley**, opera tenor; **Al Nick and Hugo Immediato**, the Three Little Bakers; **Clarke Jester**, retired state policeman; **Jennifer Jones**, Metropolitan Opera star; **William L. Kappa**, executive director of the Catholic Youth Organization and the Wilmington Senior Center, director of parks and recreation for Wilmington and New Castle County; football official; **Raymond "Buddy" Kee**, founder and president of Kee Lumber Supply Co.; **John D. Kelly III**, owner of Logan House, former sheriff, register in chancery; **Casimir Klosiewicz**, weight lifter for the Jackson Street Boys Club; **Frederick Krapf Jr.**, World War II naval aviator, president of Krappcanolith Construction Co.; **Joseph Labovosky**, assistant to Dr. Wallace H. Chambers, who invented nylon, international consultant of synthetic fibers; **William Laurzell**, University of Delaware wrestling champion, high school wrestling coach; **e. Jean lanyon**, artist and poet; **Victor Lichtenstein**, University of Delaware athlete, baseball and basketball coach at P.S. du Port High School; **Harry Levin**, founder of Happy Harry's chain stores; **Rev. Dr. Ernest Lyght**, bishop, United Methodist Church.

**Art Madric**, Wilmington Fire Department lieutenant, Glasgow High School intervention specialist and track coach, founder of Wilmington Track Club; **Harvey Magulgan**, Rhodes scholar; **John Marta**, builder, philanthropist; **Mary McCloskey**, WHS girls basketball and hockey coach 1930S-50S; **William McLaughlin**, mayor of Wilmington, 1977-85; **Al Mezzell**, basketball coach at De La Warr High School; **Bart Milano**, developed a successful business school in Harrisburg, Pa.; **Joseph E. Mira**, New Castle County Councilman, teacher; **Army Brig. Gen. F. Tucker Mulrooney**, director of industrial training, Delaware Technical & Community College; **Dr. John Munroe**, professor of history, University of Delaware; **Dr. Daniel Mathans**, Nobel laureate in medicine; **Al Neiger**, pitcher for Philadelphia Phillies; **Frank Newlin**, supervisor of Wilmington Parks and Recreation Department; **James Oddo**, North Carolina State football star, high school coach in Florida and North Carolina; **Demetrio Ortega**, Wilmington City Councilman, executive director of Latin American Community Center; **William Ott**, former Goldley Beacom College president.

**Dr. Richard Passwater**, biochemist, author of nutritional publications, and broadcaster; **Robert Plane**, founder of Plane Caterers, noted for philanthropic contributions; **Col. Albert Popplitt**, executive officer in the Delaware Air National Guard, Wilmington public safety commissioner; **Michael P. Popplitt**, assistant U.S. Attorney and New

Castle County attorney; **Ismael Prado**, first Hispanic lieutenant in the Wilmington Fire Department; **Howard Pyle**, illustrator and author; **Herm Reitzes**, football player and coach, sports announcer; **Isadore Reitzes**, baseball player and umpire; **Paul Richardson**, organizer for Philadelphia Phillies; **Remo Romagnoli**, entrepreneur in the printing business.

**Frank Shahan**, manager of operations, New Castle County Airport; **Martin Sloan**, founder of the Charcoal Pit, Sloan's Camera and other businesses; **Hymie Swartz**, diver for University of Delaware, director of Jewish Community Center; **Lt. Col. Ernest G. Talbert**, first African American to become

Commander of the Delaware Air National Guard; **Army Col. Richard Toner**, Little All-American football player at Utah State; **Al Tribuani**, amateur boxer; **Robert Vance**, sports illustrator; **John Van Sant**, state legislator, retired state police officer; **Frank Vart**, coach and athletic director; **Garnet Valey**, Junior High School, Concord Township, Pa.; **Col. Frank Vavala**, Delaware Air National Guard, served on many advisory councils for the governor; **Ernie Watts**, saxophonist, Grammy Award winner; **August Walz**, mayor of Wilmington, 1953-57; **William Wells**, principal, Smyrna Elementary School; **Dr. Donald Wood**, executive at Triade Systems Corp. of Livermore, Calif.