



2024 CIAC ICE HOCKEY HONOREE KEN HENRICI (IN MEMORIAM)



Kenneth V. Henrici served on the CIAC Ice Hockey Committee since 1991. The past four years, Ken served as the chair of the CIAC Ice Hockey Committee, where he tirelessly advocated for creating the best and most competitive experiences for student athletes. Ken was very passionate about the sport of ice hockey. He also served in the role as President of the Yale Youth Hockey Association which allowed him to spearhead numerous community initiatives, one of which he held in high regard: promoting and sharing the game of hockey with individuals from all walks of life.

Ken was born in New Haven and raised in Hamden, CT. Ken was a proud graduate of Hamden High School and The University of Connecticut, where he was a dedicated member of the men's varsity hockey team. Ken served his country during the Vietnam War with honor as a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Following his military service, he embarked on a lifelong career in public service in education.

Starting as a teacher in his hometown of Hamden, Ken's professional journey was marked by dedication and an unwavering commitment to the field of education. His career was a testament to his passion for learning and his desire to provide students with the best opportunities for growth and development. He rapidly ascended through the educational ranks, with notable roles including serving as an assistant principal in Hamden and Clinton, as the principal at West Haven High School, as an assistant superintendent in Bridgeport, as the superintendent in Wallingford, and finally devoting the last 16 years of his career as the superintendent to Regional School District 11.

Unfortunately, Ken unexpectedly passed away on November 4, 2023, at Yale-New Haven Hospital, surrounded by his loving family.

The CIAC Ice Hockey Committee is proud to honor Kenneth V. Henrici for his leadership and dedication to CIAC Ice Hockey.

Ken's dedication to education extended beyond the administrative realm. He held a deep belief in the power of public education and consistently sought ways to offer students the most enriching educational experiences available. He firmly believed in providing students with opportunities to challenge themselves, often expressing the view that everyone had the right to fail. Ken had a particular fondness for engaging with the student body whenever the occasion arose.

Beyond his career and community involvement, Ken was a man of simple pleasures. Many will remember him playing hockey on the local frozen ponds, casting lines into the Mill River while enjoying the serenity of fishing, and sharing stories infused with his exceptional sense of humor. He was known for his honesty, strong work ethic, and an innate kindness that he extended to everyone he met.