

# 2015 Allegheny Valley School District Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees

---

## Frank J. Basilone



**Frank J. Basilone (attended 1929-1942)** - Frank J. Basilone was a member of the 1942 graduating class of Springdale High School. He won a scholarship to Duquesne University, but left to serve his country in World War II. Basilone was a draft choice of the Pittsburgh Steelers, but could not play due to family commitments. However, he played semi-pro football and baseball in Springdale, Dormont, and Oakmont. Basilone took his love of sports and passed it on to numerous children in the community. His career in coaching spanned 50 years in baseball and football. He was the founder of the Springdale Pony League and Springdale American Legion Baseball. Basilone also served his community as a charter member of the Springdale Veterans' Association, Springdale American Legion, and the local Knights of Columbus. He was an elected member of the Springdale Borough Council and an altar server at St. Alphonsus Church. His actions awarded him selection to the American Legion Sports Hall of Fame and the Alle-Kiski Sports Hall of Fame. His life of volunteerism was his chosen career, where he excelled in making a difference in other people's lives.

## Ruth E. Carson



**Ruth E. Carson (attended 1949-1962)** - Ruth E. Carson graduated from Springdale High School in 1962. She went on to secure a Bachelor of Science in Education Degree from Clarion University and a Masters of Education Degree and Reading Specialist Certificate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Over her 42-year career, she served the New Kensington-Arnold School District as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, and Title I Federal Project Coordinator. During that time, Carson developed and implemented multiple projects above and beyond classroom teaching, including an Exciting Summer Reading Program, a Title I Pre-K Program, and an Even Start Program. For her efforts, Carson has been honored with a *Children's Champion Award*, the *2014 John C. Lovelace Human Rights Award*, and the *2014 Paul Harris Fellow* award. She has served as a church officer and hosts a weekly Bible Study in her home. Her latest contribution, Carson co-founded Project SEED to provide weekend food for young children whose families needed the extra support. She inspires others with her love of children, generous nature, and her fearless attitude in taking on new projects.

## Gayle L. Godfrey



**Gayle L. Godfrey (attended 1954-1967)** - Gayle L. Godfrey graduated from Springdale High School in 1967. She went on to study at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Several years later, Godfrey continued her education at Duquesne University's School of Law and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1984. She completed the University of Pittsburgh's School of Law Trial Advocacy Program in 1988. She practiced law at Weis & Weis, both an associate and partner before becoming a partner at Pietragallo, Gordon, Alfano, Bosick & Raspanti. For her efforts, Godfrey has been listed as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer and provided an AV Rating Martindale Hubbell. She has won the American Jurisprudence Award in Civil Procedure and served as the Allegheny County Bar Association Chair of the Health Law Section. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County and on the Board of Trustees for the Lower Burrell Church of God. Godfrey also served her community on the Cheswick Borough Council and Rachel Carson Homestead Association Board of Directors. She has excelled in her career, is respected by her peers, and is committed to her community.