

## *Mike Errico Award Kinlock Family*

**T**For the past 40 summers, the name ‘Kinlock’ has been synonymous with youth baseball in Norwalk. The *David Kinlock Memorial Tournament* has been a summer tradition on local diamonds since 1975 when the first citywide event made its debut featuring three Norwalk Little Leagues and two community baseball programs.

Representatives from the National, American, and International Little Leagues, the Cranbury Community Athletic Association, and the West Norwalk Community League joined together to stage a round-robin tournament with two objectives in mind: to give more kids more baseball and to honor the memory of a former Norwalk International Little League player named David Kinlock, who tragically had lost his life a few years earlier.

Over the next four decades, the format has changed from time to time, the participating teams have varied, and some years outside towns have been invited to take part. But the *Kinlock Tournament* has been back in some way, shape, or form every summer.

In fact, it quickly became one of the more anticipated events the city’s young baseball players looked forward to each year, sometimes even more than the sanctioned district all-star tournaments.

It became known, quite simply, as “The Kinlock.”

And 40 years after the first pitch was thrown on that Sunday, August 10, 1975 afternoon at Calf Pasture Beach where the opening tripleheader was played, The Kinlock is still around.

To celebrate and commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of Norwalk’s true sports treasures, the Norwalk Old Timers Athletic Association is proud to present its 2015 *Michael E. Errico Award* to the Kinlock Family — Karen, Ray, and Einar Kinlock, and, of course, their little brother, the late David Kinlock.

The *Mike Errico Award* is named in honor of the former local sportsman who was an original executive board member when the Norwalk Old Timers began in 1963. He was the organization’s first vice president and later served as president in 1986 and ’87.

Errico, a 1979 Norwalk Old Timers honoree, was a regular at this annual dinner. In fact, even in his early 90s and after relocating to New Jersey, he would drive himself to Norwalk to present the *Mike Errico Award* in person. Last year, with his health beginning to slip, he missed the dinner for one of the few times. He passed away two weeks later on Thanksgiving Day.

Tonight’s Norwalk Old Timers dinner is dedicated to his memory and you can read more about him on page 3.

And being the Norwalk sports historian that he was, there’s no doubt Mike Errico would have been thrilled to present this year’s award named after him to the David Kinlock Family.



*The older siblings of David Kinlock, (l-to-r) Einar, Karen and Ray Kinlock, hold the original David Kinlock Sportsmanship Trophy named after their younger brother. Four years later, in 1975, the David Kinlock Memorial Tournament began play.*