

Ron Dominici



Ron Dominici was the ultimate competitor when it came to playing sports. And not just youth sports.

No, in fact, Dominici played slow-pitch softball until he was in his mid-40s, finally hanging up his spikes in 1998 after a 21-year career.

He also played 17 years in the highly competitive Inter-City Touch Football League until 1992, stopping just shy of his 40th birthday. And for 10 years in between football and softball seasons, Dominici played basketball in Norwalk City League into his 30s.

What's more, while others his age were either done with competitive sports or slowing down, Ron Dominici played all three sports at a high level.

When he was finally done, it ended a nearly 40-

year journey that began as a nine year-old in the Norwalk Cap League. Growing up around the corner from Kendall School, Dominici's baseball

career advanced through every level. He played three years in the International Little League, winning back to back championships with the Elks, who were coached by his father, Vic Dominici.

He then played in the Norwalk PONY and Colt leagues, and three years for the Ponus Ridge Junior High School baseball team, which won the junior high city championship when he was in ninth grade and was the team captain and starting shortstop.

While at Ponus, the versatile Dominici also played on the basketball team for two years and on the Green Devils football team in the Norwalk Recreation League for one year. He also played two years of CYO Basketball and was a standout bowler, winning the state championship in the two-man division one year.

Dominici's next stop was Brien McMahon High School where he was a three-year starting short-stop on the baseball team. As a senior captain, he helped the Senators reach the FCIAC championship game and capped off his career by being named to The Hour's inaugural All-City Baseball Team in 1971.

He also played two years of American Legion baseball during the summer, while at McMahon he made the varsity basketball team his junior year and as a senior he started at defensive back for the Senators' football team.

Following his graduation, Dominici went to Graceland College in Iowa and was the starting varsity cornerback on the football team. After one semester, he transferred to Central Connecticut State College and was a starter on the baseball team.

Dominici graduated from college in 1976, just about the same time he started playing in the Inter-City Touch Football League. A defensive back, Dominici helped the Darien Sportsmen win four ICTFL championships in his 17 seasons. The highlight of his career, though, was when he picked off six interceptions in a game, including one he returned for a touchdown.

Shortly after he began playing touch football, Dominici made the transition from baseball to slow-pitch softball, starting with Victor's, a family team named after his father. He then joined Singewald Buick, a perennial power, and continued with that same team and same group of teammates when they became known as T's Construction and later the Aces. He also played for the St. Ann's Club.

The teams Dominici played with won a total of six city championships, a pair of Norwalk Independent League titles, and four sectional crowns. And in a 1981 article in The Hour, Dominici was named one of "The 10 Best Softball Players" in the city of Norwalk according to a panel of local softball officials.

During his years in the Norwalk City Basketball League he played for St. Ann's, T's Construction and Dominici & Broder Associates, the custom home building business he helped start 35 years ago.

Although he stopped playing more than a decade ago, Dominici has still been involved in the local sports community. He coached and sponsored a team in the Norwalk Athletic Association Girls Softball League for 11 years when his daughters Danielle and Christin played there from ages 7 to 15.

He also coached his son's baseball team in the West Norwalk Bambino League for five years, winning three championships, and won another title while coaching in the Babe Ruth 13-year-old Division. He also coached three Bambino all-star teams and won two sectional championships.