



MIKE BAIAMONTE

2016 ELPHAGE CAILLOUETTE SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

The St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame instituted the Special Recognition honor in 2008. Elphage Caillouette graduated from Chalmette High in 1974 as a four-sport letter winner in football, basketball, baseball and track and field. He received a football scholarship from Tulane University and started as running back, on the freshman team. Elphage was scheduled to start as running back as a sophomore in the fall of 1976. A tragic tubing accident took Caillouette's life on July 11, 1976. The local chapter of the Tulane Athletic Booster Club was renamed in his honor as is

Chalmette High's most outstanding senior male athlete each year with the Elphage Caillouette Award. In 2009, your St. Bernard Sports Hall of Fame followed suit.

Mike Baiamonte is a 51 year resident of St. Bernard Parish and a "Family Man" with a huge family. He has exemplified "Role Model" his entire life and strongly believes that being the best in everything is the only option. Mr. Baiamonte has motivated countless young men to accomplish great things utilizing Baseball as his vessel. Through Mike's tutelage his family has grown to include hundreds and hundreds of players, coaches and families throughout the Southeast United States. The 2016 Elphage Caillouette Special Recognition Award fits Coach Mike (the "Family Man") like a "Glove".

PERSONAL

- » born in New Orleans
- » resident of St. Bernard Parish - 51 years
- » current resident of Ponchatoula - 11 1/2 years
- » married to Laura Alfonso Baiamonte - 43 years
- » father of 3 children, grandfather of 7

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- » Carolyn Park Elementary
- » Chalmette Middle
- » Chalmette High (1972)
- » Delgado Community College (Electrician Program)
- » Electrician 42 years (retired)
- » Currently a consultant at Exxon Mobile

ATHLETIC CAREER

- » Carolyn Park - Baseball/Football
- » Chalmette Middle - Baseball/Football
- » Chalmette High - Baseball/Football

COACHING

- » 1980 Carolyn Park Baseball
- » 1984 St. Bernard All-Star Program; Head Coach and Baseball Commissioner of the 12 y/o All-Star Program where Mike made his biggest impact.
- » Qualified St. Bernard 12 y/o Baseball All-Stars for the Dizzy Dean World Series in 1984, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000.
- » Assistant Baseball Coach for Chalmette High and Holy Cross
- » Began his private baseball organization to further serve the needs of the youth of St. Bernard Parish.
- » Carolyn Park - was a long time booster club / board member (multiple positions).
- » Past players have played college baseball at Delgado, ULL, LSU, UNO, SLU, etc. Some have spent time in farm systems for Major League Baseball. Many coach young children today. Many have become Head Coaches at places such as Newman, Holy Cross, Belle Chase and Loyola. Others are serving as assistant coaches in other sports throughout Southeast Louisiana

CURRENTLY

- » Continues to spread his baseball knowledge and share with his present community through coaching youth baseball. He now coaches 2 teams where he uses his knowledge to improve the skill sets of his ballers.
- » Head Coach 8th-grade baseball team at Holy Cross (New Orleans).
- » Family: Wife Laura, a.k.a Team Manager, has been the backbone of every team Mike has coached. Her support is the reason for his passion to continue. Together, they found a way to make baseball for the people of St. Bernard a family experience that created a life-time of memories. All of their children and grandchildren share in the passion of athletics. Either by playing the sport or attending games, his family has always been by his side. When growing up in the Baiamonte family, most of the family vacations were centered around a World Series Trip. Mike Baiamonte, Sr. has spent a lifetime paying it forward to the youth of the area.