



**Joseph Bellucci** came to Liberty High School to teach science in September 1959. Joe graduated from Hazleton High School and attended the University of Scranton, before moving to Bethlehem.

At the University of Scranton, he majored in chemistry and minored in philosophy and religion (the latter was required at this Jesuit university). He attended the University of Scranton on an all-expense paid Leadership Scholarship for football.

As a teacher at Liberty, he taught chemistry, physics, and senior science. He also coached football at Liberty High School for four years. While he was teaching at Liberty High School, he attended Lehigh University where he received a Master's degree in guidance and counseling. He continued his studies at Lehigh University and received a doctorate in counseling psychology.

After he completed his doctor's degree in 1966, it was time for him to begin a career in the field of psychology. He worked one year in northeastern Pennsylvania as a school psychologist. He was then offered a faculty position at Wilkes University to teach education and psychology courses and statistics.

At Wilkes University, he became very astute at writing grants and had 16 grants funded over a period of 35 years. His 16 grants were valued at approximately \$20 million.

*Instructional Technology Education for the Commonwealth (ITEC)* was a grant of which he was most proud. He and five of his colleagues wrote the grant proposal, hired/supervised and established 14 *Regional Computer Resource Centers (RCRC)* training centers in Pennsylvania for a twelve-year period. In this grant, they trained over 15,000 teachers for 45 hours on the integration of computers in the classroom; teachers received three free graduate credits for each course. The Centers also conducted numerous short workshops for teachers, many in close conjunction with Apple Computer. He also worked with Apple Computer to present computer training at technology conferences throughout the country.

In addition, to his work at Wilkes he worked as a School Psychologist consultant to many school districts, colleges and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Education Department. For approximately 20 years he worked part-time as a Hearing Officer for the Right to Education Office and then became an appellate panelist for Special Education in the PA Department of Education. He retired in 2004.

Joe is enjoying retirement. When he was working, he did a lot of traveling in the United States, Western Europe, the Caribbean, Poland and Egypt. Currently, he takes two vacations per year in the United States.

He is married and has two children. His two daughters work and live in New York City. He sees his daughters at least once a month. He has two grandchildren, one boy and one girl. The boy is 12 years old and the girl is 17.

His wife received her doctorate from Temple University and she taught nursing at St. Luke's in Bethlehem. She worked at Wilkes for 30 years before she retired, initially, as Director of the Instructional Technology graduate program, later, as Director of Student Teaching, then teaching graduate students online for many years.

Joe still enjoys watching football games. It doesn't matter whether it is high school, college or professional football.

He loved teaching and spent 42 years as an educator. He worked in the public schools for eight years and spent 35 years in higher education. He still feels that teaching is a noble profession. He has many great memories of his time at Liberty High School.