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*"Nick Augelli has been president of the Waterbury Board of Aldermen, a police, fire and finance commissioner and a church trustee. While he has carried all these titles, he readily admits that the one he cherishes most is "Coach."*

- Catherine N. Awwad, Member, Waterbury Board of Education

Waterbury native Nicholas P. Augelli was born April 27, 1946, the son of Carmella and Peter R. Augelli, a former state senator and registrar of voters. He grew up in the Town Plot section of town, graduated from Tinker Elementary School and Fairfield College Preparatory School, received his bachelor's degree from Villanova University, his master's degree in mathematics from Central Connecticut State University and his school administrator's degree from Sacred Heart University.

Augelli began teaching mathematics and computer programming at Crosby High School in 1968 and retired as supervisor of technology in 2003. He has coached Bulldogs basketball for forty-five years, thirty-five as head coach of the boys basketball program. He spent ten years as an assistant basketball coach under Bob Brown before taking the helm. During the 2014-15 season he became the first Naugatuck Valley League coach to achieve six hundred career basketball victories.

During Coach Augelli's four decades with the Crosby boys basketball program, he has enjoyed unprecedented success. He currently has six hundred twenty-one career wins and ranks first in the city and third in the state among basketball coaches for the most victories. Under his leadership, Crosby boys basketball holds the NVL record of a sixty-one game winning streak and the city record of twenty-seven consecutive wins. In 1981 and 2004, Crosby reached the finals in the state championship tournament. In 1998, Coach Augelli led Crosby to its first Class L State Championship. In 2005, Crosby won the Division 1 State Championship, capping an undefeated season, and in 2008 he led the Bulldogs to the the Class LL State Championship with a 26-1 record. In 2009, in an improbable run, they made a return appearance to the Class LL Final, defeating the tournament's number one seed Hillhouse High School in the quarter finals, only to fall one bucket short in the finals. Crosby basketball is recognized statewide as a perennial powerhouse with fifteen NVL League titles (eight consecutive) and six appearances that claimed three state titles in the last fifteen years.

Augelli also served as head tennis coach of both the boys (1974-81) and girls (1974-83) Crosby teams. In 1976 the boys posted a 10-3 record, while the girls were undefeated at 10-0. In all, his tennis wins totaled more than one hundred.

Augelli's success and the prominence of his teams have year after year generated tremendous citywide interest and pride - and pride of family, too, perhaps best exemplified by his mother who regularly attended basketball games with her rosary in hand - along with his wife Roxanne's parents, Carmella and Charles Schaeffer.

Coach Augelli's impact on young people - especially those who have worn the Crosby basketball uniform - is immeasurable. As one grateful and admiring player put it "He wants his players to succeed not only in basketball, but in life."

Coach Augelli's commitment, coaching style and longevity have also earned him the respect of his fellow coaches.



In 2007 he was nominated National Coach of the Year by the National High School Coaches Association. The New Haven Tap Off Club named him Coach of the Year in 2007 and inducted him into their Hall of Fame in 2012. Governor M. Jodi Rell honored his accomplishments with a proclamation issued under her seal in May, 2008 when he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Waterbury. He received the 2015 Boys Basketball Merit Award from the CIAC's state coaches organization. The Crosby basketball court was named "Coach Nick Augelli Court" in his honor in October, 2015.

Inspired by his father's commitment to public service, Augelli was elected as a member of the Waterbury Board of Aldermen for fourteen years, serving as the minority and majority leader as well as president. He was a member of the police and fire boards and the finance commission. He served on the board of the Naugatuck Valley Development Corporation and has been a trustee of St. Michael Church.

He resides in Waterbury with Roxanne Schaeffer Augelli, principal of Washington Elementary School, his wife of thirty-seven years.