

## HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT

2011/2012  
Journal

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### Muataz Jaber, MD

Class of 1972

Muataz emigrated from Iraq to the United States in 1964. He entered the Copiague Junior High School in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He met one of his closest and best friends that day.

Education was an important principle in Muataz's house. His greatest inspiration was his father, who grew up in a rural village in southern Iraq. At an early age Muataz's father walked to the nearest school with his cousins to enroll. He was too young and was sent home. He sneaked back into the class and hid under the desk. Seeing his determination, he was allowed to stay. He later won a scholarship to Baghdad University, became an engineer, planning commissioner, and started a construction business. Muataz had similar determination in pursuing his goal to become a physician.

Muataz credits many of the teachers at the Copiague High School, especially the math and science departments, with making the learning process enjoyable and igniting his passion for knowledge.

Muataz attended SUNY Stony Brook, medical school in Iraq, and returned to the US for his residency in Internal Medicine at the Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn. He trained in an Allergy and Immunology Fellowship. He has his own Allergy practice in Rockville Centre.

Muataz is the Senior Area Medical Director for the United States Postal Service and President of Long Island Allergy and Asthma Society. Muataz, an expert in his field, presents his research at national meetings, is a policy consultant to school districts and has been interviewed for print and television. Muataz prepared emergency management protocols and liaised with City and State Police and Emergency Management departments during 9/11 and the Anthrax Crises.

Muataz has fond memories of Copiague. He made many friends and enjoyed soccer and basketball games. His basketball team attained the State Championship. His teachers encouraged him to grow and excel, recognizing his passion for mathematics and teaching. His determination and their confidence set the stage for pursuing goals that seemed unachievable.

**“No matter how unachievable your goal seems, keep trying for it. You will never have to regret missing the opportunity.”**