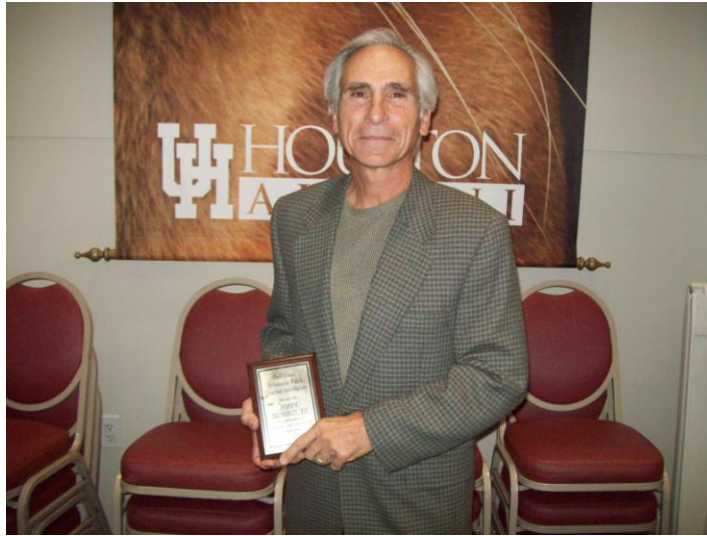


## Andy Ferrara



Coach Ferrara grew up in Brooklyn, NY and started running track as a sophomore in high school. He attended the City College of New York, running track and cross-country for four years. He was MVP of the cross-country team as a junior and senior. After college he began his teaching/coaching career in the New York City school system. He spent five and half years at South Shore HS in Brooklyn, the last four and half as head boys' track/cross-country coach. When NYC experienced financial problems in 1976, Andy was laid-off after the school year had started that fall. He found work the following spring in Texas in the Klein school district.

Coach Ferrara spent 1977-1979 as an assistant to GCSTCA Hall of Famer, Ray Davidson, at Klein HS. Beginning in the fall of 1979, he spent the next 24 years at Eisenhower HS in the Aldine ISD. During his time at Eisenhower, the Eagles completely rewrote in the school record book. His boys' teams won four district varsity championships. These came in the highly competitive District 21-5A that had three other future GCSTCA Hall of Fame coaches. These were Larry Gnatzig at MacArthur, Sam Kruse at Smiley and Aldine Senior, and Zoe Simpson at Kingwood. Points did not come easily in District 21-5A. There was also a stretch of 14 straight years that Eisenhower had one or more athletes or relay teams ranked among the top 50 performers nationally. After the 2003 season Ferrara retired from teaching and coaching, or so he thought. In a fortuitous twist of fate, Kingwood needed an assistant track coach, but didn't have a teaching position to go with it. Enter "retire/rehire" and the birth of a new chapter in Andy's career.

Outside of his career as a high school teacher and coach, Andy has been very involved with USA Track and Field. He began first as a competition official, then as a member of the Men's Development Committee and most recently as the developer of the Competition Video Project of USATF. This last position has taken him to IAAF World Championships in Osaka Japan, Berlin Germany, Daegu Korea, and IAAF Indoor World Championships in Doha Qatar and Istanbul Turkey. These were topped by Olympic Games in Beijing and London in 2008 and 2012. In between have been trips with national relay squads

to Stockholm, London, Monaco, Philadelphia and other places around the globe. This is quite a journey for a kid from Brooklyn with a passion for the sport of track and field.