



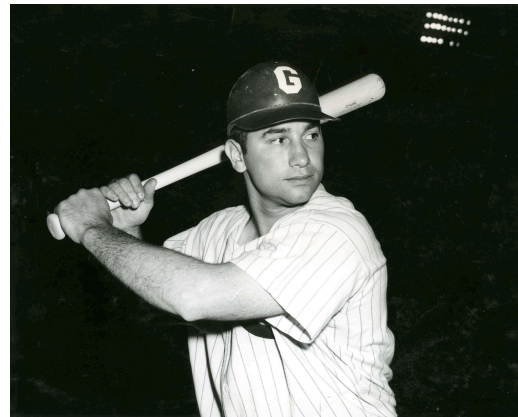
Story of John Malangone and His Childhood Tragedy Wins Best Film Honors

By Bill Francis

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"Long Road Home," the story of John Malangone and the childhood tragedy that would alter his baseball life for decades, received top accolades as Best Film at the conclusion of the second annual Baseball Film Festival on Sunday afternoon.

The weekend-long event, hosted by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, saw 10 films screened in the Hall's Bullpen Theater. "I can't wait to call John and tell him that he won because it will mean so much to him," said Ron Weiss, a participant in "Long Road Home" who accepted the award.



According to filmmaker Bruce Spiegel, the producer, director, writer, editor and photographer of "Long Road Home," the project was a six-year labor of love.

"It has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. Getting to know John, his family, friends, and so many wonderful ballplayers, hearing their stories, was totally exhilarating," Spiegel said. "John standing in the midst of Miller Huggins Field, reliving his amazing life, will always stay with me. "Telling John's story reawakened in me the joy I first felt when I originally got involved in making movies. It's been truly a life-altering experience."