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ORIGINAL BOARD MEMBER, EVENT RECORD HOLDER TO BE INDUCTED INTO GRANDMA'S MARATHON HALL OF FAME

(DULUTH, MINN.) --- A longtime Board member and the men's event record holder will make up the Class of 2025 and be inducted this June into the Grandma's Marathon Hall of Fame, it was announced today.

Dave Malban was one of the original Board members of Grandma's Marathon, having completed the paperwork in 1986 to create the nonprofit entity that still exists today. Malban served close to four decades on the Board of Directors, several of them as the organization's general counsel, and was one of the original Board members of the Young Athletes Foundation (YAF) in 1990.

"A great event like Grandma's Marathon ultimately runs on great people," Malban said, "and I've been blessed to work with and get to know many – Board members, staff, volunteers, and participants. It's not just the runners that are some of the best in world that weekend in June."

Dominic Ondoro, meanwhile, is the current men's event record holder after his time of 2:09:06 in 2014 unseated Minnesota running legend Dick Beardsley and one of the most storied records in the event's history.

"It was a great feeling," said Ondoro, who was greeted by a smiling Beardsley at the finish line. "With the people cheering, it gave you energy. I'm so happy."

Ondoro won the race again in 2022 – and has finished second twice – making him one of only seven men to have won the event multiple times.

"Duluth will always have a special place in my heart," Ondoro said on being inducted into the Hall of Fame. "From its stunning beauty to the incredible people, it's become a second home to me."



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Michelin's | Michelob Ultra | Minneapolis Oxygen | Minnesota Pork Board | Minnesota Power/ALLETE | Northland FAN 106.5 | Powerade ION4
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Malban and Ondoro will be officially enshrined during the Grandma's Marathon Awards Brunch on Friday, June 20 at The Garden Event Center.

GRANDMA'S MARATHON HALL OF FAME

Class of 2025

Dave Malban
Dominic Ondoro

Class of 2024

Greg Helgeson
Paul Iversen
Bob Larkin

Class of 2023

Elisha Barno
Dan Dock
Barb Korte

Class of 2022

Glenn Evavold
Jim Greenfield
Monica Halligan
Deb Pawlowicz
Rick Recker
Dick Skogg

Class of 2020-21

n/a

Class of 2019

Kevin Peterson

Class of 2018

Jeff Frey
Lizette Mitchell
Deanna Nordeen

Class of 2017

Adele Hartwick
Amanda McGrory
Doug Nelson

Class of 2016

Joe Hietala
Erik Nelson
Kraig Rudstrom

Class of 2015

Tim Hollis
John Kessler

Class of 2014

Scott Keenan

Class of 2013

Carol Gallinger
Mike Krois
Rudy Lundahl
Saul Mendoza

Class of 2012

City of Duluth
City of Two Harbors

Class of 2011

Ron Francisco
Steve Harrington
Ed Hermel
GB Leighton
Chelly Townsend

Class of 2010

477th Medical Company
Chuck & Sally Hegg
John Leppi
Bill & Nancy Olsen
Kevin Pates

Class of 2009

John Docter
Steve Greenfield

Kellie Luedloff
Bill Wenmark

Class of 2008

Sharon Buchanan
Jerry Frederick
Jeno Paulucci
Mary Spiering

Class of 2007

Neil Franz
Greg Haynes
Dale Kusnierek

Class of 2006

North Shore Striders

Class of 2005

Candy Furo
Taire (Lind) Suliin

Class of 2004

Don Fennessy
Gino & Kathy Goedel
Michael Pinocci

Class of 2003

Candace Cable
Ken & Mona Rae Cich
John Kulick

Class of 2002

Rick Jackson
Joe Johnson
John Naslund
James Nowak

Class of 2001

Brian Daugherty



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Jan Ettle
Brian Larsen
Paul Van Winkel

Class of 2000

Joan Dahlstrom
Herb Dillon
Cindy Nelson
Mac Welles

Class of 1999

David Eckstrom
Doug Kurtis
Lorraine Moller
Tami Oothoudt

Class of 1998

Dick Beardsley
Peter Graves
Barney & Janis Klecker
Wen Shi Yu

Class of 1997

Gerald Church

Class of 1996

Andy Borg
Garry Bjorklund
George Fink
John Foschi
Mickey Paulucci
Alex Ratelle
Dorothy Spencer

For any questions or interview requests, please contact Marketing & Public Relations Director Zach Schneider via phone at (218) 343-9874 or via email at zach@grandmasmarathon.com.

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ABOUT GRANDMA'S MARATHON

Grandma's Marathon began in 1977 when a group of local runners planned a scenic road race from Two Harbors to Duluth, Minnesota. After seeing just 150 participants that year, the race weekend has now grown into one of the largest in the United States and welcomes more than 20,000 participants for its three-race event each June.

The race got its name from the Duluth-based group of famous Grandma's Restaurants, the first major sponsor of the marathon. In addition to the 26.2-mile race, the organization has now added the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon and William A. Irvin 5K to its weekend offerings.

As the popularity of Grandma's Marathon has grown, our mission has stayed the same – to organize, promote, and deliver annual events and programs that cultivate running, educational, social, and charitable opportunities to our communities.

Grandma's Marathon-Duluth, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization with a nine-person, full-time staff and a 17-member Board of Directors.



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