



David Scott Porter

March 5, 1946 - August 25, 2012

David S. Porter of Grand Ledge passed away August 25, 2012. Dave was born March 5, 1946 to the late Clarence and Alberta (Schmidt) Porter. Dave was a graduate of Lansing Sexton High School and went on to accept a scholarship to attend the University of Michigan where he competed in wrestling and football. He was a two-time NCAA collegiate wrestling champion and football player and was inducted into the University of Michigan Athletic Hall of Honor in 1985. Dave was drafted by the Cleveland Browns in the 1968 NFL Draft, but due to an injury, he was never able to play in an NFL game. Dave retired from the Grand Ledge Public Schools where he taught various subjects and coached multiple sports over the years. He was able to influence the lives of many students in his time there. In his spare time, Dave liked to spend time outdoors, whether it was hunting, fishing, or just working in his yard. His retirement gave him more time to plan projects for his friend Tim Sheerin to help him with. He also enjoyed visiting U of M and birthday gatherings with his wrestling buddies. Dave is survived by his niece Tracey (Scott) Jegla-Brooks of Dimondale. He was preceded in death by his sister Penny Jegla. There will be a memorial visitation, Wednesday, September 5, 2012, at the Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home, Grand Ledge from 3:00 PM until the time of the memorial service at 6:00 PM. Memorial contributions may be given to The University of Michigan Athletic Department, Development Office, 1000 South State Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109. Online condolences and memories at www.holihanatkin.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 5. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services
406 N. Bridge Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
(517) 627-2531
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

Service

SEP 5. 6:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

TF

“ When we were at West Junior Dave picked me up and lifted me high enough to dunk my first basketball, he was the strongest most gentle person I can ever remember.

Tyrone Fletcher

Tyrone Fletcher - September 06, 2012 at 03:02 PM

SD

“ Sandra (Davis) Dell lit a candle in memory of David Scott Porter



Sandra (Davis) Dell - September 05, 2012 at 08:25 AM

SD

“ Dave, along with his family, including their German shepards, were our neighbors every summer at Derby lake while growing up. Dave was 5 yrs. older than me, but his sister Penny was my age. I remember Dave so well trying to get pulled up on water skis. He really gave that large boat moter a work out. He also had those one man skimmer boats. He would fly across the water and had a few bad tumbles. Sometimes he would let me beat him while playing pool at the cottage. He sort of picked on my older brother, in fun only, by picking him up and tossing him what seemed like half way across the lake. He and his dad nicknamed me peanut and he was always my and Penny's protector. Rest in peace Dave and thank you for the great childhood memories.

Sandra Dell - September 04, 2012 at 10:38 PM

ML

“ Dave and I were teammates at West Jr. High and Sexton High School. He was a wonderful friend that I will never forget. He and Pete Cornell leave a big void in my life. Dave and Jeff Smith were such special heavywgt. I was so fortunate to have been on teams with these guys. Pete will have his big guy friend in heaven. Our experiences and stories will live on. Mike Long

Michael James Long - September 02, 2012 at 04:30 PM

RW

“ I attended J. W. Sexton High School with Dave in the 60s. He was an extraordinary athlete and a fine young man. I will never forget the thrill of watching him wrestle. I knew even then that I was watching greatness. My sincerest sympathy and condolences go out to his family and friends. We will always remember "Baby Huey" with great respect and admiration.

Rosalie Hudnut Wright, Class of 1965

Rosalie Hudnut Wright - August 31, 2012 at 02:35 PM

CT

“ I coached against Dave in high school when I was at Battle Creek Central. When Dave's match was announced the Lansing fans would stand up and start to put the jackets on to get ready to leave before he got to the mat. His opponents would look up in the stands and wonder why they were starting to leave. Usually within the first 30 seconds or so they would understand. He was the best high school and college heavyweight I ever saw. He dominated at both levels. He was both a high school and college legend. Those of us who coached against him liked and respected him. He earned it.

Constantine "Sonny" Tgiros

Constantine D. Tgiros - August 31, 2012 at 07:43 AM

JF

“ I was saddened to hear of Mr. Porter’s passing. I had Mr. Porter for many, many gym classes and never laughed so much as in his classes (sometimes at my own expense). He used to call me “Foster Brooks” because it must have looked like physical comedy when a skinny 110 lb version of me played flag football and tried to catch a pass! I had a great amount of respect for him. A great guy... solid person... a Grand Ledge Legend. Mr. Porter.. you will be missed.

Jeffrey Foster, GLHS Class of ‘82

Jeffrey S Foster - August 30, 2012 at 12:24 PM

BS

“ I have many fond memories of Mr. Porter. I remember the story my father's biological brother told me about what it was like to wrestle him in high school. It ended quickly. I remember being the practice dummy when we were learning the "chicken wing". He taught it well, even though I was a horrible wrestler.

I still laugh at his comments in gym class, especially when "Ann" got hit in the chest with a football. While she held her chest in pain, he replied, "with any luck Ann, it will swell".

He was as intelligent as he was strong and could find ways to teach the unteachable.

He had a fantastic sense of humor and immense patience. Those are the qualities I remember.

Brad Schroeder, GLHS class of 1989

Brad Schroeder - August 30, 2012 at 12:02 PM

TD

“ I was sorry to hear of the passing of another Grand Ledge High School teacher. It is my understanding, that he did something very honorable in character in assisting my mother, during the time she also taught there. I wish I had been able to thank him. My deepest sympathy goes out to David's friends and family.

Sincerely,
Terry Richardson Decker

Terry Richardson decker - August 30, 2012 at 10:33 AM

SB

“ I'll always remember Mr. Porter from my time at Grand Ledge High School. He was a fair, no nonsense, role model for me, and I am sure, many others.

Steve Boehm, GLHS Class of 1980

Steve Boehm - August 29, 2012 at 05:50 PM

JK

“ I was deeply saddened to read of Dave's passing. I wrestled with Dave at Michigan. He was a year younger/behind me and anchored the team for two years. He was, hands down, the strongest man I have ever met. A gentle giant with outstanding athletic and physical talent. I remember him being impervious to pain. His passing, so close to that of Pete Cornell, leaves a huge void to the Michigan Wrestling family and his own. My deep condolences to his family.

Jim Kamman
Laguna Hills, California

James M. Kamman - August 29, 2012 at 12:48 PM