

## DANA DICKSON

Class of 1978



Dana was a Mynderse Academy graduate of the Class of 1978. While at Mynderse he participated in football, basketball and lacrosse. He lettered eight times as a Varsity athlete and served as team Captain on several teams. In football, Dana played one year under Coach Jack Daniels and 2 more playing for Coach Dave Geitner. He played both defensive end and tight end. His senior year, the team captured the Wayne-Finger Lakes crown and were ranked 7th in the state with a record of 8-0-1. He was All League Defensive End and selected to the All Greater Rochester Team his junior and senior years. Under Hall of Fame Coach John Nicholson, he played Varsity Basketball for two years. During his senior year he obtained most rebounds and team high scorer recognition. He also received All-League Team selection. In Lacrosse, Dana played 3 years for Hall of Fame Coach Al Henry. He was selected 1st Team All-League and won the Rumseyville Defenseman of the Year Award.

Other than being a very active athlete, Dana was also involved in Student Council and was elected Sargent of Arms his Senior year. He was also a member of The House of Representatives and the Block M Club. Dana's spirit, pride and determination lives on at Mynderse Academy. A Defenseman award has been set up and is given to a senior boy in lacrosse each year. Also a scholarship is given to a senior boy who is going onto a secondary school, who played 2 or 3 sports and who exemplifies Dana's characteristics on and off the field.

Dana went on to play lacrosse at Herkimer College earning the captain position, under Coach Paul Wehrum. The team made it to the National Junior College Sectionals only to lose to Cobleskill.

His leadership skills that were evident at Mynderse and Herkimer, carried forward to his service in the United States Army, as a Chief Warrant Officer, flying as a

squad leader to a group of Black Hawk helicopters in the 82nd Airborne Division. He flew missions in Haiti, Honduras and served in Desert Storm.

Shortly after returning home and while still serving his country, Dana contracted leukemia. He courageously fought for 10 years but lost his battle with cancer in 2003.

He was a father to four children; Jake, Dayna, Katie and Emily. Dana will be remembered for his dedication to his family, friends, teammates and his country.