

PETER 'Pete' E. WORMUTH  
Class of 1954



A Seneca Falls native, Pete is the son of Warren "Speed" Wormuth, a Hall of Fame inductee in 2014, and Barbara Wormuth who met as school teachers in Seneca Falls. He has two brothers, Dave who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2010, and Arthur. Pete and his wife Carol are the parents of 2 sons, Scott and Jeffrey, and 1 daughter, Suzanne, who has 2 children, Ethan and Molly.

As a high school athlete at Mynderse, Pete participated in baseball for 1 year, track for 3 years, and football for 3 years. Although rarely a starter in football, he was fortunate to play on some of the dominant teams of the 1950's

(undefeated league play) allowing him ample playing time to amass significant rushing yardage in addition to punt and kick-off return yards on defense as a safety.

Pete's best sport was track, in which he excelled as a sprinter. He was Finger Lakes Champion in both the 100 yard dash (10.2 secs) and the 220 yard dash (22.8 secs). He defeated sprinters from excellent Geneva and Canandaigua teams among others to win these titles. Pete also anchored the Mynderse Finger Lakes Championship 440 yard relay.

Other accomplishments at Mynderse included Vice President of the Block M Club, Honor Student (top ten), and recipient of academic scholarships to Cornell University, the University of Rochester, and Hamilton College.

Pete graduated from Mynderse in 1954 and chose to attend Hamilton. He looked at a very unique and difficult program consisting of 3 years at Hamilton and 2 years at MIT. Successful completion would grant degrees from both colleges and a very bright future. After some deliberation, Pete opted for the straight Hamilton route. While at Hamilton, he played football for 3 years. In the 1950's colleges played single platoon football, meaning one played both ways, offense and defense. If, during a quarter, a player was substituted for, he was not eligible to return until the next quarter. Therefore, the rosters were much smaller. This reduced the use

of the specialists, especially kickers-field goal and extra points. Hamilton's travel team consisted of 25 players.

During Pete's career at Hamilton, Sports Illustrated Magazine featured an article about Hamilton football, specifically covering the Hamilton-Union game in 1955, which ended in a 19-14 Union victory with Hamilton on the Union 1 yard line.

While at Hamilton, Pete shot a Hole-in-One during a fraternity golf tournament. After graduation, Pete was drafted into the US Army for 2 years. After turning down an offer to attend Officers' Training School, he was sent to Advanced Infantry and then to the Panama Canal Zone. While there he was installed as an Army Post Inspector and also volunteered to participate in Jungle Warfare Training.

After separation from the Army (1961), Pete settled in Seneca Falls following a short stay in New York City. He took a position with Goulds' Pumps, where he was employed for 37 years, retiring from Goulds/ITT as Systems Development and Telecommunications Manager.

During employment, but especially after retirement in 1998, Pete became involved in multiple activities, many school related.

These include:

- Seneca Falls School Board (13+ years and still serving)
- Mynderse Academy Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee-7+years (still a member)
- Relay for Life
- Piloted various aircraft (Piper Cherokee-Seneca Falls, T-15 Navy Trainer-Geneseo, Glider-Cape Cod)
- Seneca Falls Zoning Board of Appeals
- United Way Board (including Volunteer of the Year)
- Seneca County Literacy Volunteers Board (President)
- Town of Seneca Falls Comprehensive Plan
- Seneca County Community Services Board
- Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition
- FLACRA
- Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (Treasurer, Vice-President)
- The Christmas Project
- Volunteer-House of Concern
- Delivered Meals on Wheels