

WARREN “SPEED” WORMUTH



‘Speed’ Wormuth began his athletic career in Lowville, NY. He lettered in both track and field and football at Lowville Academy and was the captain of the football team in his senior year. Upon graduation in 1924, he was offered an appointment to the US Naval Academy and financial aid to Cornell University, but he opted to attend Hamilton College in Clinton, NY much to the surprise of his brother and sister who both elected to attend Cornell. At Hamilton, Speed was again selected football captain and participated in both track and football. Speed was selected to the “Little All-American” (small

colleges) team as well as Colgate’s “All Opponents” team.

Upon college graduation Mr. Wormuth was offered a teaching position in the Mathematics Department at Mynderse Academy where he advanced to become department head. Along with his academic position came a coaching position as assistant football coach. Under the high school rules in effect at the time, head coaches had to be physical education majors in college. Speed was a math major. Fortunately, the head coach was Art Baker who valued Speed’s experience and knowledge and became his closest friend. In addition to his football coaching position, Speed was the assistant Track and Field coach during much of his tenure at Mynderse.

One of Speed’s most cherished accomplishments was the founding of the Block ‘M’ Club, an organization for Mynderse Academy’s finest student-athletes of good character. Originally restricted for boys, it became a co-ed club after merging with the Girls’ Athletic Association (GAA) in the 1990s.

In the academic field, Speed introduced advanced math courses to the curriculum. During World War II, he taught advanced math to Naval Officer candidates enrolled at Hobart College in the V-12 program. One of Mr. Wormuth's greatest disappointments was that he was unable to enter the V-12 program as an officer candidate due to a near fatal illness contracted prior to the enrollment period. However, Speed kept in touch with his former students in the military by mail (V-Mail) as a method of keeping them current with happenings at Mynderse and in Seneca Falls.

In addition to his teaching and coaching responsibilities, Speed took graduate courses at both Cornell and Syracuse to further his education. He also tutored many Mynderse students to assist them with their college enrollment. Mr. Wormuth also served on the Seneca County Board of Health and the Seneca Falls Library Board while living in Seneca Falls.

Speed left the teaching profession in 1944 after a successful career in athletics and education to become a manager at Geb and Souhan Yarn Co. He held this post until retirement.

Mr. Wormuth was married for 41 years to Barbara Lloyd, a Seneca Falls elementary teacher who he met when they both started teaching in Seneca Falls in 1928. He is survived by his 3 sons, Arthur, David (a Hall of Fame member) and Peter.