Hall of Fame

2025



Valley Forge High School

"Ours is a heritage,
Living from age to age.
Help us thy honor bear
Through all the years.
The blue and white will be
Our bond of loyalty.
Always we cherish thee
Valley Forge High."



Hall of Fame
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A short history of the Hall of Fame

The Valley Forge Athletic Hall of Fame was established in the summer months of 2013 under the guidance of Terry Wandt and Chris Medaglia. Along with a group of current and former coaches and athletes, the groundwork was laid that would be the foundation of the current organization. The group set guidelines, nominated a slate of candidates and voted in 36 charter members. The first induction was held in the Valley Forge Auditorium on May 3, 2014. The success of the first induction and the positive feedback then became the motivation to continue with the project as a second and third induction were held in 2016 and 2018. The Valley Forge Athletic Hall of Fame has now become an integral part of the Valley Forge High School Athletic Department as exemplified by the Hall of Fame display in the gymnasium lobby and the Hall of Fame web page which is included in the Parma City Schools website.

Purpose of the Hall of Fame

To pay tribute and extend recognition to those individuals who through the years have contributed to the honor and fame of Valley Forge High School in the field of athletics, and who have continued to demonstrate, in their daily lives, the values learned in interscholastic athletics.

Hall of Fame Eligibility

No athlete shall be considered for recognition for at least five years after graduation of his or her class. An athlete must have earned a minimum of one varsity letter. The record of the individual(s) considered shall be so outstanding that there is no question as to the qualification necessary for induction. Qualifications and criteria shall be based on the candidate's participation while attending Valley Forge and shall include accomplishments after leaving the high school. The selection shall be based on merit only and never of a political nature.



Ron Cooper
Football & Wrestling
1966

Ron Cooper was a 3X Letterman on the 1964, 1965 and 1966 Wrestling teams. Each year the team won the LEL Championship, marking the first time VF was league wrestling champions. His LEL record during those years...22-0. His career included: 1964 Greenville Pennsylvania Tournament Champion, 1965 he placed third at the Brecksville Tournament as the team won the team championship, a 1966 Sectional Champion, District Champion and finished his outstanding career as a Heavyweight Runner-up at the 1966 State Tournament. Ron was voted the VF 1966 Outstanding Wrestler Award. The Cleveland Plain Dealer named Ron first Team All- Scholastic. In football, Ron was a 2X Letterman/starter in 1964 and 1965. As a key starting defensive lineman, the football team won their first LEL championship in 1964. His football accolades included WEWS Channel 5 Player of the Week, 9/14/65; 1965 VF Most Valuable Lineman, 1965 First Team All-Lake Erie League.

Upon graduation, Ron attended Bowling Green State University on a football scholarship where he also wrestled. He went on to be a member of the Teamster Union for 19 years. Ron also was owner of the Startlight Lounge in Middleburg Hts. However his biggest accomplishment, he is currently a Cancer Survivor.



Joe Drago
Football & Wrestling
1966

Joe Drago was a 3X starter and Letterman on the Wrestling teams which won VF's first Lake Erie League Championships in 1964, 1965 and 1966. He was a 2X Sectional Champion and a Brecksville Individual and Team Tournament Champion. On the football team he was a 2X Letterman, a starting defensive back on the first LEL Championship Team in 1964. Joe also was a starting running back and defensive back in 1965. He set school records for interceptions; two (2) in one game, four (4) career and a 45 yd. interception return.

After graduating from Bowling Green State University, he went on to a very successful teaching and wrestling coaching careers at Brooklyn High School, Cuyahoga Community College, St. Ignatius, Brunswick, Elyria and North Royalton High Schools. He coached five (5) State Champions and two (2) National Champions in his 50 years of coaching.

Joe has received numerous accolades, including inductions into the Brooklyn City Schools' Hall of Fame, Brooklyn's wrestling room named in his honor, the North Royalton Wall of Fame and in 2022 ***The National Wrestling Hall of Fame.***

Joe is married to his wife Rita, also a 1966 VF graduate. They have three children Michael, Jodi, Angela and four grandchildren.



Phil O'Toole
Football & Track
1966

Phil earned five letters at Valley Forge, two in Football under Head Coach Jim Fritzsche and three in Track & Field, under Coaches Joe Carlo and Bob Ramlow. He was a starting Defensive Back his Junior year, the year of VF's first LEL Championship in football. He was a two-way player his Senior year, leading all running backs in scoring and was an All-LEL selection and the team's leading tackler at linebacker. In Track & Field, Phil was a sprinter on the Sprint Medley Team and a Pole Vaulter. He was part of the Sprint Medley Team that set a school record at the Berea Relays. In the Pole Vault, he set a school record as a Sophomore, then broke his record as a Junior. As a Senior, he set a new personal record at The Mansfield Relays and placed first at Districts, setting a new district record. His final record vault of 13' 6 ¾" remains the school record to this day, 59 years and counting. He was voted Athlete of the Year in 1966. Phil married his High School sweetheart, Barbara Sartini in 1969. They will celebrate their 56th Wedding Anniversary this September. Together, Phil and Barb share four sons and seven grandchildren.



Billy Waltz
Football, Wrestling, Baseball
1970

Billy (Douglas William) Waltz played three years (1967-1970) of football and was the starting quarterback for the 1969 season when VF finished runner-up in the LEL. Bill passed for 748 yards and rushed for 252 yards, for a combined 1,000 yards of total offense. He received Cleveland Press Star honorable mention and was selected to the Cleveland Plain Dealer Dream Team. He established and tied school records for passing efficiency in a game and fewest interceptions in a season. Bill was also selected by the coaches as the Most Improved Back. He would like to thank his coaches Jim Fritzsche and Russ Jaques who had the confidence and trust to start a 5'7" quarterback often referred to as the "fiery diminutive red head."

Bill received a BS from the University of Alabama and an MBA from Baldwin-Wallace College. He was a licensed CPA in the state of Ohio. Bill worked for MTD PRODUCTS INC for 22 years and started and co-owned Ashland Conveyor Products for 24 years. He has been active in community and church, and is now retired enjoying life with his wife of 50 years (and high school sweetheart) Pam (Pabst) Waltz, 2 daughters, and 3 grandchildren.



Steve Kibler
Wrestling
1972

Steve Kibler was a member of the wrestling team from 1970 - 1972. He was a key contributor to the team, winning their first and only division AAA State Wrestling Championship. Steve was undefeated in dual meet wrestling for 3 years at Valley Forge. He wrestled 98 pounds his Junior Year, took 3rd place at Brecksville Invitational, 1st place at Sectionals, 1st place at Districts and won one match at The States. He was voted to the All Greater Cleveland Wrestling Team and won Most Valuable. He wrestled 105 pounds his Senior Year, placed 1st in Sectionals, 3rd in the Districts and 3rd in the State Finals PINNING 3 of the 4 matches he won, placing him in 3rd. Voted to the All Greater Cleveland Team AGAIN at 105 and won Most Valuable with co-winner Greg Young. Steve received a Bachelor's Degree at Kent State University in Industrial Arts. He has enjoyed a varied career in construction and the arts. He is very proud to have been associated with the wrestling brotherhood and long-time association of lifelong friends.



Mary Dobeck
Gymnastics
1975

Mary Dobeck Kiczek (1975) excelled as Captain, team anchor, and high scorer of her gymnastics team, ranked number one in balance beam and floor exercise, and competitive in vault. She led the team to the District Meet, earning 5th place in both balance beam and vault. Recognized as Most Valuable Player, she was also Co-Captain of the softball team, a cheerleader, Class Officer, and voted Best Female Athlete. Mary received the Billie Jean King Athletic Excellence Award and Athlete of the Year in 1975 and was featured in Women's Sports Magazine. Recruited to Kent State University's gymnastics team, she also played college softball and served as a KSU Ambassador and Student Leader. Mary participated in Dragon Boat Racing on the Cuyahoga River and volunteered as a Trail Monitor for the Metroparks. Her 44-year nursing career roles included; Charge RN of a Comprehensive Pediatric Unit, Pediatric Coordinator at Metro School of Nursing, Adjunct Faculty at CCC, and University Hospitals Coordinator of Community Outreach. Mary and her husband Chris have been married for 41 years, have three children and six grandchildren.

Mary expresses her heartfelt appreciation to the Board of Directors for this honor, which is even more special this year, because the class of 1975 is celebrating 50 years since graduating from VFHS.



Edward Gresky
Football & Track
1975

Edward Gresky was the starting quarterback that led the Valley Forge football team to the Lake Erie League (LEL) Championship in 1974 (Ed's Senior Year). Ed was honored as the **"Patriot Player of the Week"** for games vs Shaw, Parma, & Euclid. Ed was the **LEL's Most Valuable Player** for 1974. Based on being LEL's MVP, Ed was also the **LEL's Lou Groza High School Football Cleveland Award Winner**. Ed continued his football career at Ashland University.

Ed married his VF sweetheart, Judy Urbanowicz (VF '75). Ed and Judy are the proud parents of three sons and nine grandchildren. Ed coached all 3 of his sons in multiple youth sports. His oldest Son David (Beth) is in the St. Ignatius HOF (2016), played Baseball at Northwestern University, and played in the Chicago Cubs minor league system. His sons Brian (Sarah) and Christopher (Valerie) both graduated from Marquette University. Ed's brother Scott (VF '77) played Football (1976 LEL Championship HOF team) and Basketball at Valley Forge & played Football at Columbia University. Both of Ed's Sisters, Jill Powers (Akron University) and Susan Cites (Purdue, Jeff Cites) graduated from VF as well. Ed thanks you for this wonderful HOF Honor.



Claude Charlillo
Football & Track
1976

Played football and ran track all 3 years at VF 1974-1976

Starting tailback 1976 season
On many winning relays in track
Part of almost 50-year-old 4x100 relay record

Played football and ran indoor & outdoor track all 4 years at University of Mount Union 1976-1980

Starting tailback 1978-1980 seasons
All American Track 1978 4 x 400
All OAC Football 1978
All OAC Football 1979
Averaged 108 yards per game 1979
MVP Offensive Player Football 1979
All OAC Track Indoor & Outdoor 1978 4 x 400
All OAC Track 1980 400 Meters



Dale Ilko
Football & Track
1977

Dale Ilko played Football and Track earning 4 letters during his high school career at Valley Forge and was a member of the 1976 LEL Championship team. In just 5 games his senior season, Dale averaged 4 yards a carry and 4.5 catches per game with a 14 yard average. Although his senior season was cut short by injury, he was still able to earn an athletic scholarship to attend Edinboro State College where he played Strong Safety. After graduating from Edinboro, he played 4 years with the Semi-Pro football team, Cleveland Falcons, winning 2 undefeated league championships while his team was ranked as high as 4th in the nation among all Semi-Pro teams. While with the Falcons, Dale led the league in rushing in 1983 & 84 and in 2017 was inducted into the American Football Association - Semi-Pro Football Hall of Fame. He later coached Youth football at St. Hilary Parish in Fairlawn and served as Revere High School Freshman Head Basketball Coach and Assistant Varsity Coach from 1998 to 2003. Dale just retired last March and now enjoys seeing more of his 7 grandchildren.



Dave Panczyk
Football, Basketball, Baseball
1977

Dave Panczyk was a 3 sport athlete with three letters in football and two each in basketball and baseball. Dave played on two Lake Erie League championship football teams where he played tight end and linebacker. He also won multiple individual awards including two time First Team All Lake Erie League, All State honorable mention; First team All Northeast Ohio, two time Cleveland Plain Dealer Dream Team and Cleveland Press Star. He also broke the school record for most receptions in a game and most receptions in a career.

In baseball he was a two year starter (pitcher and third base) and a two year starter in basketball.

He continued his football career as a tight end at Bowling Green State University where he received a full athletic scholarship and was a four year letter winner.

Dave now resides in Twinsburg with his wife Sandy. He has three daughters and five grandchildren



Glenn Preising
Football Coach
1972 - 1978

Glenn Preising was a graduate of James Ford Rhodes high school in Cleveland where he captained his team to the West Senate title playing in the annual "Charity Game." He attended Syracuse University (1954-1957) on a football scholarship while lettering on the gridiron for three years and was the recipient of the university's Joseph Alexander Award for scholarship and citizenship. He was proud to be part of the 1956 Syracuse team which earned the August Lambert award for the best team in the East and a teammate of Jimmy Brown. Glenn began his coaching career at Cleveland John Marshall High School. His teams had a 24-6 record. He became part of the Valley Forge football coaching staff when the school opened in 1961. As a JV coach his teams accumulated a record of 18-4-1. He spent the next eight years as a varsity assistant coach before being selected to take over the varsity head coach position in 1972. Under Glenn's leadership, Valley Forge won two Lake Erie League Championships (1974 & 1976) and never ranked lower than fourth in the league of ten teams. His teams had a 51-19 (73%) winning record during his seven seasons as the head football coach of the Patriots.

Glenn was a dedicated coach who stressed the importance of Home, School, Church, and Community. Glenn along with his assistant coaches developed a "team culture" whereby all players clearly understood that with hard work and team centric focus anything was possible.

Due to Glenn's unrelentless efforts and guidance, many student athletes were able to take their skills to the next level. He took pride in promoting athletes to find a quality environment where players could excel at the collegiate level. On several occasions, Glenn drove players to university's many hours away to meet with coaches and promote Valley Forge student athletes. Well over twenty played on Division I teams with full scholarships. Just as many players went on to play at Division II and III levels. Several of his players became high school coaches.

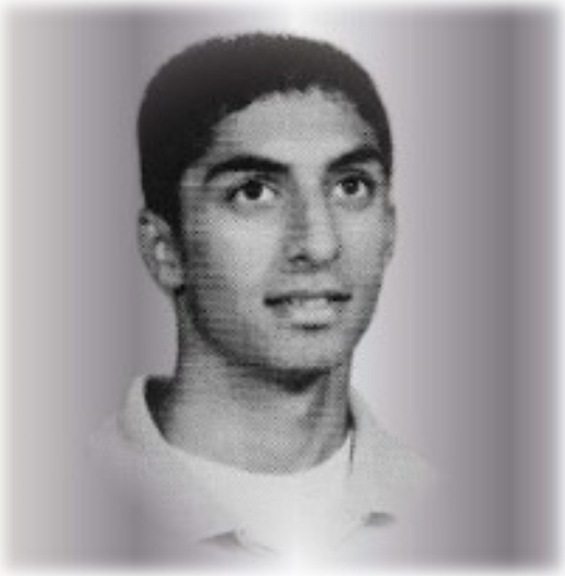
Valley Forge football was Glenn's passion and lifework. He passed away in 2001 at the age of 65.



Brian Thomay
Basketball & Baseball
1983

Brian Thomay participated in basketball and baseball during his time at Valley Forge, collecting six letters from 1981 to 9183. In basketball he was a 3 year varsity starter and earned all LEL honors one time. Brian is ranked in the top 25 of scoring leaders in Valley Forge basketball. In baseball he was a 2 year varsity starter and earned all LEL honors twice and voted to the Plain Dealer All Star team in 1983. He was also named the 1983 Valley Forge outstanding male athlete.

Brian graduated from Baldwin Wallace College in 1987 and earned his masters degree from Cleveland State University in 1989. He lives with his wife Shelley (also a 1983 VF graduate) in Broadview Hts. and has two daughters and three grandchildren



Deepak Sharma
Cross Country & Track
1998

From 1994 to 1998, Deepak Sharma left an indelible mark on Valley Forge's cross country and track programs, cementing his legacy as one of the school's most decorated distance runners. A four-year varsity letterman in both cross country and track, Deepak's relentless dedication and competitive spirit propelled him to record-breaking achievements.

On the cross-country course, he dominated the 5K distance, setting a school record at the Ohio State Meet on the historic Scioto Downs course—a record that impressively stood the test of time, only recently being tied. His performance at the state meet earned him All-State honors, and he was recognized as an All-LEL (Lake Erie League) athlete all four years of his career. Deepak's championship pedigree was undeniable, securing two LEL individual titles and MVP honors, along with multiple invitational victories, including championships at the Patriot Invitational, Medina Invitational, and the prestigious McDonough Invitational. His standout state performance also earned him a coveted selection to represent Ohio at the Mideast Championship, a prestigious event featuring the top 10 senior runners from six states competing in Dayton, Oh.

On the track, Deepak continued his dominance, becoming a three-time regional qualifier in the grueling 3200m race. He claimed district and LEL championship titles as both a junior and senior, showcasing his ability to perform under pressure. He added victories at the Lakewood Relays and Rocky River Bell Invitational to his résumé, proving his versatility across competitive meets. As an anchor of the 4x800m relay team, he played a crucial role in securing a regional qualification. His name remains etched in Valley Forge's history, as he still holds the school record in the 3200m race.

Deepak's extraordinary high school career is a testament to his perseverance, discipline, and passion for competition. His achievements continue to inspire future generations of Valley Forge Patriot athletes, and his induction into the Hall of Fame is a well-deserved honor for an athlete who redefined excellence in distance running.

Deepak resides in Boca Raton, FL today with his wife and two kids where he operates a business consulting firm helping small businesses.

My deepest appreciation for the late Coach Tom Schrieber who truly was one of the most instrumental people in developing me to the man I am today!



Jack Junker
Football & Baseball
2003

Jackson Junker was recently inducted into the Valley Forge High School Athletic Hall of Fame, a well-deserved recognition of his outstanding contributions to the school's football program. In his time at Valley Forge Jackson earned three letters in football, playing a pivotal role in leading his team to its first-ever playoff berth in school history in 2002. His dedication and leadership on the field were undeniable, earning him Defensive MVP honors and a spot on the ALL-LEL First Team, 2001 he also was ALL-LEL! His remarkable performance during the 2002 season did not go unnoticed, as he was featured as the Player of the Week in the Plain Dealer newspaper for all of Northeast Ohio.

Jackson's most impressive feat came in the form of a record that still stands today—27 tackles in a single game, vs St Edwards a record that remains unbroken at Valley Forge. His tenacity and skill on defense made him a standout player, and his induction into the Hall of Fame serves as a testament to his lasting impact on the Valley Forge football program.

Jackson Junker is a former All-American collegiate athlete with over 18 years of experience in the fitness industry. Through sports performance, coaching, effective personal training & developing successful personal trainers Jackson Junker has impacted many in Northeast Ohio. He now owns a football inspired gym in Cleveland called "4 Quarters"!



Tom Schreiber
Coach & Athletic Director
1988—2010

Tom Schreiber's career is a remarkable journey in the world of athletics, where his contributions as a teacher, coach, and athletic director left a lasting impact. Beginning at Alliance High School, his leadership in track and cross-country coaching helped numerous athletes qualify for state competitions. After relocating to Parma Heights in 1988, he became a key figure in the Patriot track program, where his coaching led to multiple LEL and district championships, along with several team invitational titles. Throughout his career, he mentored many exceptional athletes, including several Athlete of the Year honorees and members of the Patriot Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1993, he expanded his coaching influence by taking on the role of cross-country coach, where his teams earned recognition with several invitational wins and impressive All-LEL awards. A highlight in 1996 saw four of his runners finish in the top seven at the LEL competition. Tom would eventually move to Athletic Director which allowed him to play a pivotal role in the transition from the LEL to the NOC Conference. He took great pride in his role as AD, and even in retirement, he continued to support the athletic community by helping at Byers Field and assisting in the establishment of the Patriot Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011. After retiring, Tom's life centered around his granddaughter Corinne, golf and fantasy baseball.



Todd Griffen
Soccer Coach
2005 - 2016

Todd Griffen coached the Valley Forge Boys Soccer team from 2005 - 2016. During those twelve years the soccer team won the Northeast Ohio Conference Championship 5 different times. During his tenure the team amassed over 120 victories making Todd the winningest soccer coach in school history. Todd was recognized as the Coach of the Year for various conferences and associations on 7 different occasions. He won the Coach of the Year for the NOC in each year that the team won the championship, and again won the award in 2016 when Valley Forge was in the Great Lakes Conference. Additionally, Todd was chosen as the Greater Cleveland Soccer Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 2007, which recognized his accomplishments that year as a top coach and team in the area. Twice the boys soccer team under Todd's leadership rose to a top 4 ranking in the area and finished as district semifinalist on 4 separate occasions. Todd had 4 different players earn the highest recognition they can by making an All State Team during their time on the team. Todd also coached basketball and baseball at Valley Forge, and has continued to serve the families of the Parma City School District since he left coaching as an administrator at Normandy, Greenbriar, and now as the Principal at Shiloh Middle School. .



Terry Wandt
Cross Country & Track Coach
1988 - 2019

Terry Wandt began his teaching career as a 7th grade science teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High School soon after a post college infantry tour in Vietnam. In 1973, he began a coaching journey working with the Panther cross country, wrestling and track teams. During the cross country & track season, coach Wandt tried to encourage all students to participate regardless of their gender, size or athletic experience. Even though there was only one team, the male & female runners were members of the same team. We did make girls' relay teams and everyone had the chance to compete in their chosen event. From a legacy perspective, this was probably an opening to begin the girls interscholastic program for many sports in the late 1970's.

Coach Wandt had the privilege to coach 12 present Patriot Hall of Famers, 8 LEL individual champs, 19 VF Outstanding male or female Athletes, several District Champs and regional Cross Country & Track qualifiers. Seven athletes qualified to the Ohio State Meet and four earned All Ohio recognition.

The track record board still honors 9 individuals or relay teams from the tenure of Coach Wandt & the Patriot track coaching staff. Nine of the top 10 girls & six of the top 10 ten boys Patriot 5 K cross country times were posted by his runners. The Patriot track girls set meet records at the Berea Relays (High Jump) & the Bell Invitational (800 m run & 4 x 800 m Relay).

Dan & Sarah Sieradzki along with Coach Wandt started the Patriot Cross Country Invitational (still going) in 1987. Terry joined with Tom Schreiber to host the Byers Field Invitational Track Meet (now the Bill Dodd Invitational) in 1996.



Chris Medaglia
Athletic Director
2009-2023

Chris is a 1990 graduate of Holy Name High School. He attended Kent State University where he graduated with a degree in Physical Education K-12. He continued his education receiving his Masters Degree from Marygrove College in the Art of Teaching.

Chris began his teaching career with Cleveland Public Schools in 1996, while also joining the football staff at Buckeye High School as a varsity assistant. In 1999, Chris fully immersed himself in Buckeye High School as a full-time teacher and was the head football coach by 2002. That year, under Chris's leadership, the Buckeye football team won the school's first and only Mohican Area Conference Championship, resulting in the first playoff appearance in school history. Throughout Chris's coaching reign, he successfully led the football team to two additional playoff appearances. In 2005, more school records were broken as Chris continued to push the Buckeye football team further than they had ever been, earning the school's first perfect season and winning the Patriot Athletic Conference. That same year Chris was awarded the Associated Press Ohio Division III Coach of the year, the Cleveland Plain Dealer Coach of the Year and the Medina County Fall Sports Coach of the Year.

In 2007, Chris returned to his hometown of Parma Heights, where he accepted a position with Valley Forge High school as a teacher and head football coach. In 2009, Chris became the Athletic Director and head track coach where he continued to use his gifts of leadership and coaching to accomplish great things, including establishing the Athletic Hall of Fame and winning the schools first girls track conference championship in 2014. For over a decade, Chris has transformed the Valley Forge gymnasium wing into a walk down memory lane. Chris researched the record books and created the all time stat boards along with updating the Athlete of the Year display.

Chris believes that sports develop positive character traits and provide the student/athlete with essential life skills, including teamwork, resilience, and courage. As a way to foster these qualities, in 2007, Chris began working for the NFL/Cleveland Browns coordinating their player development program. Chris continues working with this organization, directing the Cleveland Browns High School Showcase.

Chris and his wife of 28 years, Kimberly, reside in Middleburg Heights. They have two wonderful children. Their son, Nicholas, works as a CPA for Applied Industrial Technologies and their daughter, Ali, is a pediatric oncology nurse at UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.



1974 Track & Field
"Record Breakers"

Top:Chris Boehlefeld, Andy Mazkalnins, Jeff Stapleton, Greg Kubat, Mike Tretiakow, Ken Kusanke, J. Sentendry, Gary Gross, Kim Charlillo, Mike Savage. Forth: Mike Hanket, Mike Lansell, Mark Fascione, John Malaga, Ray Lisowski, Howard Sack, Scott Campbell, Marty Chambers, Mike Stacy, Bob Petrak, Tom James, Bob Stainbrook. Third: Bob Bauer, Jeff Lloyd, Jeff Ritter, Bob Calabretta, Billy Litten, Don Hankouski, Dave Carr, Jay Scott, Mark Anderson. Second: Craig Kleinhenz, Rick Kiehl, Mike Koketko, Claude Charlillo, Dan Landis, Tom Kovatch, Joe Dmitruk, Bob Minchek. Bottom: Bob Stumm, Mitch Jamison, Edward Strauss, Bob Burrows, Ray Brezina, John Vaughan, Jim Pastor, Bill Kucera, John DaSilva, Keith Linn. Not Pictured: Dave Bilinovich, Debbie Carr, Jim Carrick, Mike Jung, Joel Leachko, Kathy LeVeseur, Bill McCulloch, Joe Porto, Kelley Schenk, Doug Smith, Bryan Steele, Dave Way, Ken Zadar, Steve Ziegler, Ed Zinni. Head Coach Bob Vicek, Assistant Coach James Jankura.

There is no doubt that the 1974 and 1975 track teams, under HOF Head Coach Bob Vicek, and Assistant Coach James Jankura, rewrote the record books dating back to 1963 when the school opened. But, the 1974 team stands out as the most balanced with its outstanding field events, sprints, and distance participants dominating the opposition.

By the time all members of the 1974 team graduated, 16 of the 22 Valley Forge dual, and relay meet records were rewritten, and 50 years later all of the records still stand, including the mark set by the shuttle hurdle relay team of 56.0, which was the best in the state. The team also set 16 opposing school meet records during the 1974 season. The following year, members of the 1974 team went on to set 9 more Valley Forge school records.

* 1974 Dual meet record: 10-1 * Parma Relays Champion: 7 meet records
* Berea Relays Runners Up: 2 school records * Maple Relays Champion: 3 meet records, 1 school record
* Rebel Relays Champion: 4 meet records * Bay Relays Runners Up: 2 meet records, 3 school records
* Lake Erie League Meet Champions * AAA Sectional Meet Champions

Valley Forge Varsity Football Team 1976



ROW 1:(L to R): Paul Siegel, Steve Levi, Dan Kobak, Len Starey, Tom Bertaud, Andy Molls, Chuck Laulette, Randy Brack, Ray Bergman, Mike Lukacovic, Rick Ehlert; Row 2: Steve Koketko, Rick Mack, Sal Vanadia, Dean Frye, Mark Fyock, Jim Kirschnick, Greg Visnosky, Dan Steele, John Nagy, Mike Gurich, Jim Schweisthal, R. Kurek; Row 3: Coach Janitzki, Coach Max Schindler, Brent Youngmann, Marty Yuhas, Rich Lanzalaco, Dave Knudson, Greg Boltz, Greg Simon, Dave Ritschel, Shawn Gaffney, Greg Zavodny, Rod Langford, Marty McGinty, Coach Ken Konchan, Coach Lou Cangelosi, Head Coach Glenn Preising, ROW 4: Ken Kruse, Jim Coreno, Tom Kolke, Chris Burrell, Steve Pettegrew, Joe Buchholz, Marty McIntosh, Bob Pogozelski, Mike Jesensky, John Hibian, Mike Pittenger, Brett Esber, Dale Ilko; ROW 5: Mark Horvath, Mike Rullo, Todd Wright, John Yantek, Scott Gresky, Ken McCarthy, Jim Fritzsche, Andy Gissinger, Mike Lees, Dave Panczyk, Jeff Olszewski, Doug Pierce, George Bushak, Larry Mucha.

The 1976 Valley Forge Patriots football team started the bicentennial season with high expectations. Through hard work, dedication and unselfish contributions by everyone, the team won the L.E.L. Championship with a 9-1 season record. VF was ranked 4th highest in the OHSAA computer points in the state. Despite being ranked 2nd in the Region 1 final rankings, they did not qualify for the state tournament since only one team from each of the four geographic regions qualified for the playoffs. St. Edwards (9-1) had a few more computer points which propelled them as the Northeast Ohio representative to the state playoffs.

The 1976 Valley Forge football team's success was largely due to their balance on both offense and defense. The strong defense allowed only 52 points all season and achieved four shut outs. The offense averaged 19 points and 283 yards per game. The 1976 Valley Forge football team was proud to be recognized for their accomplishments during that special season.

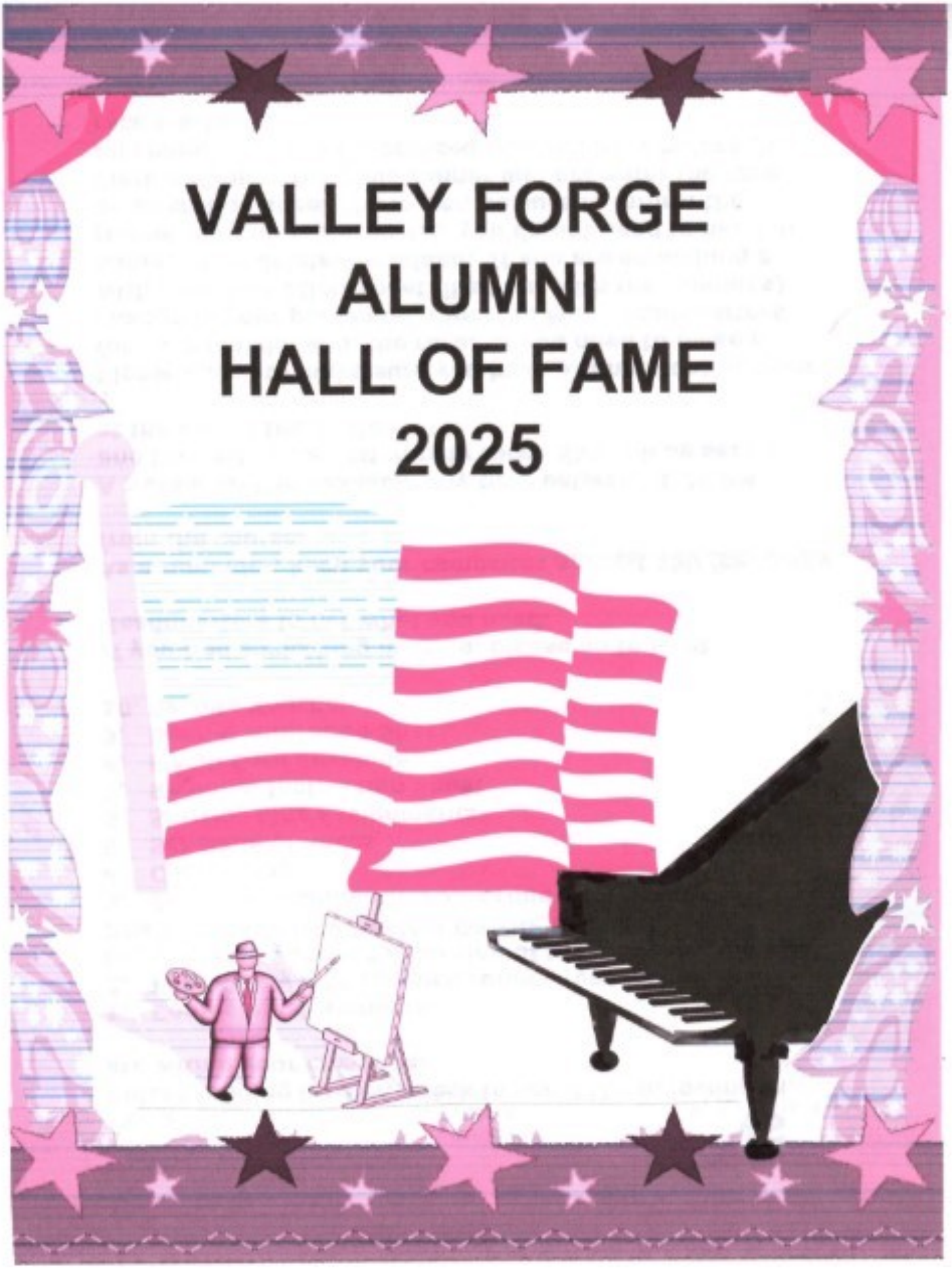
Valley Forge Girls Basketball Team 1978-79



ROW 1 (L to R); Patty Kochis, Diane Ristau, Mel Lynch, Lynn Kochevar, Lynne Thomay, Janet Strunak, Karen Horvath, Coach Ken Konchan ROW 2; Judy Stavole, Nancy Rogers, Tina Koran, Jill Boxler, Daneen Maderas, Karen Kahl, Barb Mucha.

The Valley Forge girls' basketball program was still in its infancy, established in 1974 by OHSAA as a girl's organized sport. Prior to that time, girls' intermural competition was the only school sanctioned opportunity for girls to participate in sports. The 1978-1979 girls' basketball team went undefeated in the L.E.L. with a record of 9-0. The regular season record that year was 15-3. The team went on to win the Sectional and District titles. They became the first girls' basketball team to reach the regional playoff tournament. There over all season record was 19-4. This memorable season was the bedrock of the Valley Forge High School girls' basketball program. Coach Ken Konchan established a winning program for many years. The teammates on this record setting team are now considered as pioneers of the girls' basketball program at the school.

VALLEY FORGE ALUMNI HALL OF FAME 2025





Gerald (Jerry) Wilson
Class of 1966

Gerald (Jerry) Wilson graduated from Valley Forge High School in 1966. Shortly after graduating, Jerry enlisted in the United States Army in January 1967. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and by June 1967, he was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division in Munich, Germany. After serving there for eight months, he was reassigned to Heidelberg, Germany, where he served with United States Army Europe (USAREUR) until the completion of his military duty in 1970.

In February 1969, Jerry married his wife, Beverly. She joined him in Germany during his final year of service, and together they built a loving family. Jerry is the proud father of two children, Kevin and Jennifer, and a devoted grandfather to his grandson, Hudson.

Years later, Jerry reconnected with Valley Forge High School in a powerful and meaningful way. In 2017, he began working with Amy Byrne's history class on the development of the Vietnam Memorial at the school. This memorial, dedicated on May 10, 2019, serves as a lasting tribute to those who served and sacrificed during the Vietnam War.

Jerry's dedication to honoring veterans continued with the creation of the Agent Orange Memorial, which was dedicated on May 31, 2021. This memorial stands in memory of those who lost their lives due to Agent Orange exposure and those who continue to suffer from its effects.

This recognition also honors the many individuals who supported Jerry's efforts, particularly those who worked alongside him on the memorial projects. Their shared dedication has helped ensure that the sacrifices of veterans will never be forgotten and will continue to inspire future generations.



Anita Pontremoli
Class of 1966

Anita Pontremoli is a celebrated performer, teacher, recording artist, and, as the head of the Cleveland Institute of Music's Collaborative Piano Department, has dedicated her life to classical music and education. Ms. Pontremoli has collaborated on stage with a myriad of world-renowned classical musicians. Since the age of four, she has played the piano and learned the art of collaboration. By the age of eleven, Anita and her violinist sister, Terri Pontremoli, began performing as the Pontremoli Duo. This began a decades long journey which included performances on national and international stages. Their recording career focused on music composed by women including sonatas by Amy Beach and Grazyna Bacewicz for Centaur.As a solo artist, Anita recorded Impresiones Intimas, the piano music of Federico Mompou, also for Centaur. Ms. Pontremoli studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Yale and the Verdi Conservatory in Milan. Anita has taught at the CIM for over 45 years. She served as the Director of Students of the Scotia Festival in Halifax and as the head of Collaborative Piano for Encore School for Strings. Ms. Pontremoli has played a significant role and is recognized for educating thousands of aspiring musicians while sharing her musical expertise and passion at CIM to this day. She lives in Cleveland Heights and enjoys an active life as a mother, grandmother and devotee of the Guardians, classic movies and community groups.



Ted Chanter
Class of 1966

Ted Chanter was influenced by Tom Dunford and Bernie Specht, Valley Forge faculty members, who helped get the creative ball rolling for Ted to pursue a career as an artist. Ted graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1971 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design and Painting. His post college journey began as an illustrator with American Greetings Corp. He began to progress through AGC establishment, first becoming the Executive Director of New Product Concepts. Ted was later promoted to the role of Vice President of New Product Development in the AGC licensing division "Those Characters From Cleveland". He then moved on as Vice President of the AGC toy division (AMTOY). Ted moved on to digital media as Vice President of Creative Production for AG.com which is the AGC online presence.

During his tenure at AGC, Ted created characters and products for both domestic and international distribution. These included Care Bears, Holly Hobby, Strawberry Shortcake, Ziggy, Popples, Madballs and My Pet Monster.

Ted is happy to join the other class of 1966 grads as members of the Patriot Alumni Hall of Fame.

Valley Forge Class of 1966

Congratulates

2025 HOF Inductees

Ron Cooper

Joe Drago

Phil O'Toole

PATRIOT HALL OF FAMERS



COACH SCHREIBER & DEEPAK SHARMA

5K TOM SCHREIBER MEMORIAL 5K AND 1 MILE

July 19, 2025

Congratulations

Valley Forge 1976 Football Team



Something magical took place during the summer and fall of 1976 at Valley Forge High School. All the hard work by the varsity football team proved beneficial during the season. The Patriots honed their skills with preseason scrimmage victories over Bay Village and St. Joes. The coaches scheduled the last scrimmage with St. Edwards. That event took place on a gravel laden practice field in the newly completed V.F. track area. The grueling battle produced many scrapes and bruises with the outcome of a tie scrimmage. Both teams knew they were strong, but little did anyone know that those two teams would eventually battle for the right to represent Northeast Ohio in the four team Class AAA state tournament.

The 1976 Valley Forge High School football team was dedicated to accomplishing great things. The team earned a 9-1 season record and won the Lake Erie League Championship. Valley Forge and St. Edwards ended the regular season with 9-1 records. Valley Forge was ranked with the 4th highest OHSAA computer points in the state. Despite being ranked 2nd in the Region 1 final rankings, they did not qualify for the state tournament due to only one team from each of the four geographic regions qualified for the playoffs. However, St. Edwards had a few more computer points which propelled them as the Northeast Ohio representative to the state playoffs.

The 1976 Valley Forge football team's success was largely due to their balance on both offense and defense. The strong defense allowed only 52 points all season and achieved four shut outs. The offense averaged 19 points and 283 yards per game. The team set several school records, and many players went on to play college football with two even playing in the NFL.

The one lone defeat was to our archrival Parma Senior High School by the score of 7-6. The game was played in front of a capacity crowd at Byers Field. The lone touchdown by the Redmen was on a broken 23-yard scamper midway through the fourth quarter.

The 1976 Valley Forge football team is proud to be recognized for their accomplishments during that special season. The team was successful because of the unselfish contributions of everyone. This included coaches, players, trainers, band members, cheer leaders, statisticians and the Patriot Canon Crew.

Mark and Jean Horvath

Congratulations

Valley Forge Girls Basketball Team 1978-79



ROW 1 (L to R); Patty Kochis, Diane Ristau, Mel Lynch, Lynn Kochevar, Lynne Thomay, Janet Strunak, Karen Horvath, Coach Ken Konchan ROW 2; Judy Stavole, Nancy Rogers, Tina Koran, Jill Boxler, Daneen Maderas, Karen Kahl, Barb Mucha.

Thank you for the great memories of Valley Forge girls' basketball. We worked very hard and accomplished a lot while enjoying the camaraderie both on and off the court!

Karen Horvath

Congratulations Edward Gresky on your 2025 Induction to the Valley Forge High School Hall of FAME!

Your MVP Performance & Leadership lead the Patriots to a Lake Erie League Football

Championship in 1974!







Good, Better Best, never let it Rest, until the Good is Better, and the Better is the BEST!

The Gresky, Powers & Cites Families



Congratulations to our Papa,
Dave Panczyk!
We love you!
Love,
Lucas, Leah, Jenna,
Caitlin & Allie

"Congratulations to all of the 2025 Hall of Fame inductees, especially the members of the 1974 Track and Field Team. We broke records together!"

2018 HOF Inductee

Billy Litten



Congratulations to our leader on and off the field, Dave Panczyk!





Job well done to the husband & father that helped raise a family of champions.
Your legacy lives on every day. #84 for life!
We love you! Na zdrowie!!
Love,
Sandy, Renee, Jill, Erin, Tom & Chris
P.S. What are we going to do tonight?? BEAT PARMA!!

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CONGRATULATIONS DAVE PANCZYK!!!







HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2025

A well-deserved award

We are all very proud and happy for you! Your games were family affairs for sure.

Mom– Joan Panczyk

Your sisters - Shirley Panczyk Siwiec (class of 80) and Ed

Carol Panczyk Pyles (class of 85) and Family

And you know Dad was proud (and still is) of everything you have accomplished.

Go Patriots!



Congratulations to the 2025

Valley Forge

Sports Athletic Hall of Fame inductees.

The Molls Family

Frank Molls

Eileen Molls

Doug Molls Class of 1968

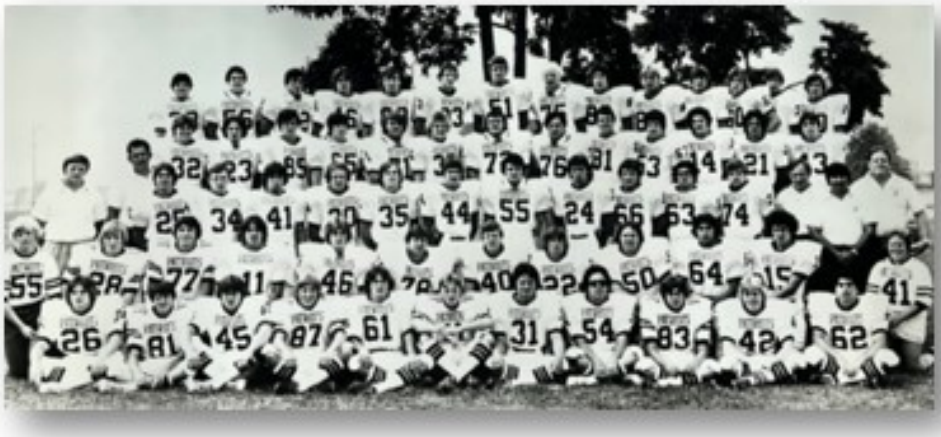
Dean Molls Class of 1970

Larry Molls Class of 1973

Michelle Molls Simon Class of 1976

Andy Molls Class of 1979

Congratulations to my fellow Patriot Football teammates on our 2025 Induction to the Valley Forge High School Hall of FAME!



We accomplished great things together with true grit, hard work and passion to Win the VF Patriots Lake Erie League Football Championship in 1976!



Cherished Memories…. ***Scott Gresky*** **#80**

In Memoriam

Bill Miller, Larry Molls, Andy Bushak,

John Stavole, Don Caravona, Stan Parrish,

Roger Johnson, Lou Cangelosi, Doug Molls,

Steve Rudo, Jim Fritzsche Sr,

Andy Gissinger, Dennis Coupe, Gary Gross

Rick Simon, Joe Schaeffer, Rick Yurchesin, Frank Janocha,

John Broski, Mark Anderson, Debbie Carr Dobbs, Mike

Stacey , Bryan Steele, Glenn Preising, Mike Rullo,

Dave Ritschel, Greg Visnosky, Joe Buchholtz,

Chuck Laulette, Mike Pittenger, Max Schindler,

Lynn Kochevar,



Valley Forge High School

With sincere appreciation to the Administration, Faculty, Coaches, and Staff of Valley Forge High School. Their dedication and professionalism has created fond memories of the past and prepared their students for the challenges of the future.

