



DAVE DIGET TEACHER AND COACH, 1962-1970

Lakeview Swimming has been a dominate sport for 45 years, and it all started with Dave Diget. Dave organized a new swim program at a new school in the fall of 1962, and five years later, the Spartans were Class "A" State Champions. In Dave's eight years at the helm, Lakeview won 68 meets, with four South Central Conference titles and a perfect 10 - 0 season in 1967. Dave's teams were 31 - 2 in his last three seasons; but more important than numbers was the love and respect he earned from his athletes that created the foundation for his teams and the teams that followed. A former swimmer said, "Dave built the foundation of LHS swimming one practice, one day, and one raw recruit at a time. He had the knowledge and the talent to build a program, but it was his generosity of spirit that created an adventure inclusive of everyone willing to work hard. It's no accident he's gone on to build character and success in countless others lucky enough to come in contact with him. You can learn a lot from a man like Coach Dave Diget."

LAKEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL, SWIMMING, AND COACHING HONORS

- Won three State Championships as a Battle Creek Central swimmer in the Freestyle and Medley Relays
- Set a National Record as a BCC swimmer in the 200 yd. Freestyle Relay
- Named "Outstanding Freshman Swimmer" at MSU for Scholarship, Leadership, and Character
- Was a two-time NCAA All-American at Michigan State in the Freestyle events
- Named Lakeview's first Swim Coach in 1962
- Dave's teams were 68 - 20 in eight seasons
- His teams achieved a 31 - 2 record in his last 3 years
- The 1965, 66, 67, and 68 teams were South Central Conference Champions
- The 1967 team was the Class "A" State Champion
- Coached four LHS State Champions and five All-Americans: Mike Campbell, Steve Mitchell, Eric Morse, Steve Morse, and Dave Wilson
- Named Michigan's 1967 Class "A" "Coach of the Year"
- Served eight seasons as Western Michigan University's Head Swim Coach
- Hold's five State Records in Master's Swimming in the Backstroke and IM events
- Ranked 1st nationally in four Master's Swimming events in the Backstroke and IM events
- Awarded the 2006 "Youth Encouragement Award" by the United States Canoe Association

THE DIGET FILE

After 47 years, Dave is still coaching swimming. After coaching at LHS and WMU, his travels included coaching assignments at Portage Central and, currently, Kalamazoo Central. Dave started the Kalamazoo Canoe and Kayak Club in 2005, sending 16 paddlers to the USCA national competition. Dave has three children, Diana, Dave Jr., and Derek. He and his wife, Pat live in Mattawan.