

# Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame

**W**elcome to the seventeenth induction ceremony for the Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame. We are so happy to finally be able to gather tonight and honor these inductees. It is the goal of the Hall of Fame committee to recognize those men and women who, while students at Los Gatos High School, distinguished themselves as outstanding athletes. It is our hope that we have created a Hall of Fame that honors the accomplishments of past Los Gatos High School athletes and also serves as a source of community pride and inspiration.

It is an extremely difficult task to sort through the hundreds of athletes worthy of this honor. This year's inductees bring the total to just one hundred seventy-six "Hall of Famers". In a school established in 1887, this number still represents just a small percentage of individuals worthy of induction. Tonight, each of you can obtain a Hall of Fame ballot. Please take the time to nominate any athlete whom you consider worthy of entry into the LGHS Athletic Hall of Fame. The committee will continue to evaluate and discuss the accomplishments of each nominated athlete whose name we receive. We will add that person's name to the growing list of outstanding athletes who will continually be considered. Each year we hope to recognize more athletes and continue to balance gender and era and cover the entire spectrum of sports competition throughout the decades.

To be selected to the Hall of Fame, a candidate must receive 75% of the votes from the standing committee. This committee is dedicated to recognizing those athletes who clearly displayed greatness on the playing fields while students at Los Gatos High School. We hope to continue the level of excellence that tonight's inductees typify. Our inductees will be recognized with a magnificent trophy. Their names will be added to the banner hanging in the school's gym and the Hall of Fame plaque mounted in the lobby of the gym will also be engraved with their names.

We plan to begin shortly after tonight's proceedings with the selection of next year's class of inductees. The guidelines established by the committee require that 10 years pass from graduation at LGHS before a candidate becomes eligible for consideration. We hope to make the announcement for the Hall of Fame "Class of 2023" at the Alumni Reunion Football Game the last weekend of October 2022 and honor the group at a dinner ceremony on Saturday May 6, 2023. Please enjoy the evening as we recount the accomplishments and feats of some of the greatest Wildcat athletes in the long and storied history of Los Gatos High School.

*Los Gatos High School Hall of Fame Committee*

# Los Gatos High School Athletic Hall of Fame

*Induction Dinner – April 30, 2022*

## **Evening's Events and Timetable**

**5:00 PM**

*No Host Cocktails*

**6:15 PM**

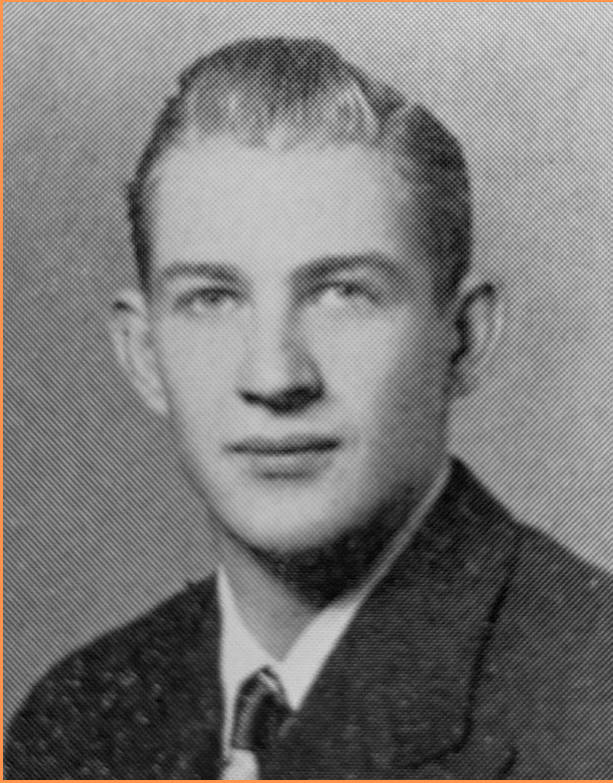
*Hall of Famers' Photo Shoot*

**6:45 PM**

*Dinner*

**8:00-10:00 PM**

*Introduction of 2020 Hall of Fame Inductees*



***Richard Raphael***

**1947**

**FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, TRACK,  
BASEBALL**

Dick played on 5 SCVAL Varsity championship teams while at Los Gatos High.

He was the Streepy Trophy winner as the team MVP his senior year in football, where he also earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team All SCVAL honors.

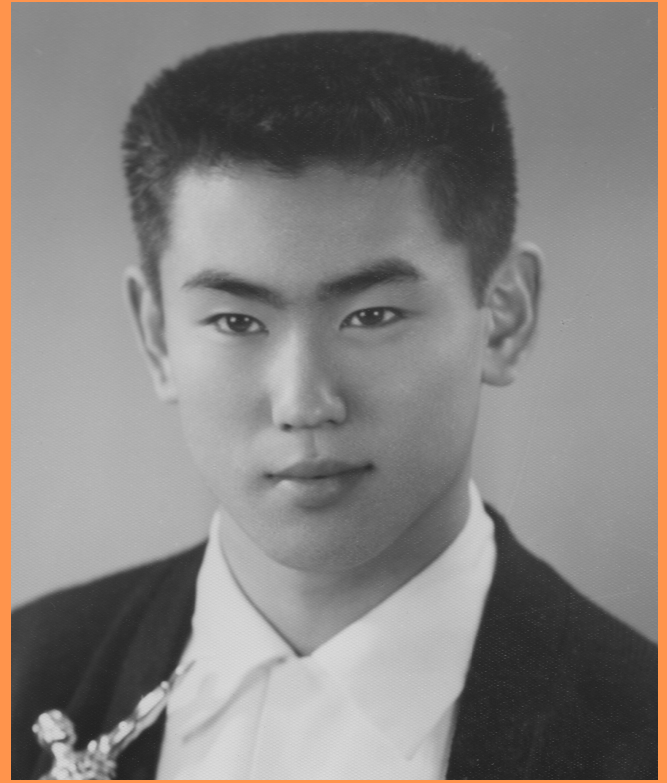
His football teams both his junior and senior years won the league championship.

He was named 1<sup>st</sup> team All SCVAL in basketball his senior year, playing on the second of his two league-champion basketball teams.

Dick finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the SCVAL in the hop, step and jump helping the Track team to yet another league championship his senior year.

He was also a starter on the baseball team.

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***Ted Abe***

**1955**

**FOOTBALL, WRESTLING, TRACK,  
BASKETBALL, BASEBALL**

Ted was an outstanding football and baseball player, wrestler and track star.

He won the Panighetti Trophy as the outstanding senior athlete.

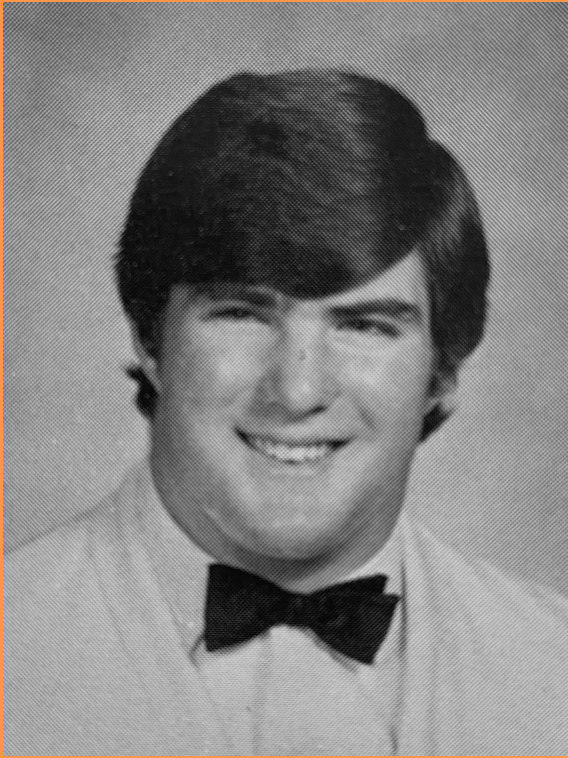
Was team captain of the football team his junior year and team MVP his senior season. On the track he set a new SCVAL record with a broad jump of 21'8" to finish 1<sup>st</sup> in the SCVAL.

He also finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the SCVAL and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Section 2 meet in the 75-yard dash.

He qualified for North Coast State Track meet in both events and took 4<sup>th</sup> in the broad jump.

Ted wrestled on the varsity team 3 years and was a two-year starter on the varsity baseball team, hitting in the middle of the order.

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***Steve Smith***

**1971**

**FOOTBALL, WRESTLING**

Steve was an outstanding offensive and defensive lineman for a league championship team his junior year. He won the Elgin Martin Award as the team's outstanding lineman as a senior when he was chosen all league as a defensive lineman that season.

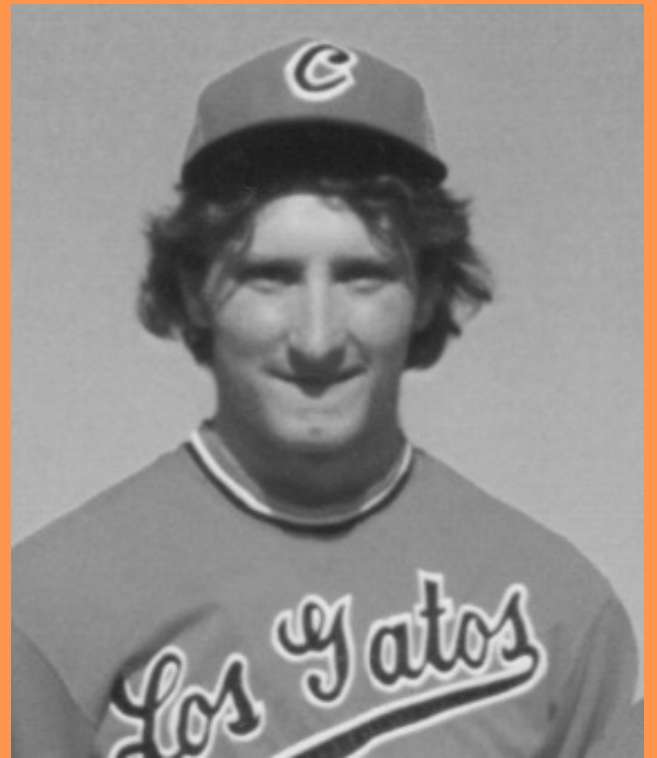
Steve wrestled only his senior year where he was 19-1 with 10 pins, his only loss coming on a referee's decision at the NorCal state meet.

He went on to West Valley and St. Mary's College where, as a senior, he was named Defensive Player of the Year while leading the Gaels in tackles and sacks.

Steve was named to the All Northern California College Division 3 Team.

He was signed by the Denver Broncos.

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***Dave Niemiec***

**1980**

**FOOTBALL, BASEBALL**

Dave was named 1<sup>st</sup> team all league in football on both sides of the line of scrimmage. He was a 1<sup>st</sup> Team All WVAL running back and a 1<sup>st</sup> team All WVAL linebacker.

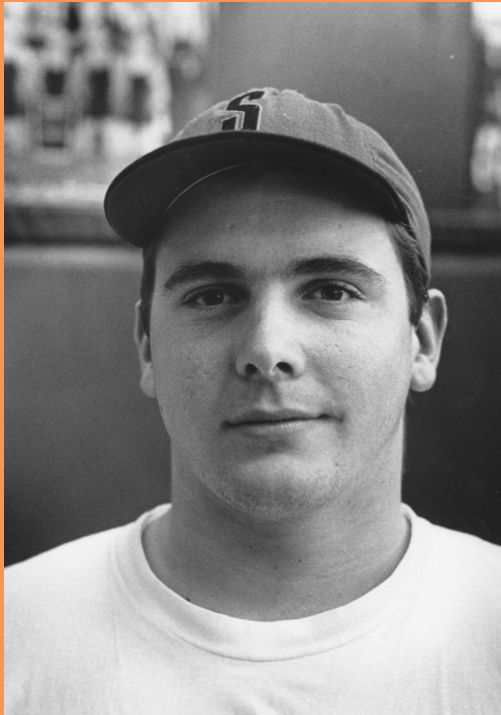
He won the Streepy Trophy as the football team MVP his senior year and was also named the Most Inspirational Player.

Baseball was his best sport, however. He was an outstanding pitcher and hitter and was twice named the MVP of the Wildcat baseball team.

He earned 1<sup>st</sup> team All WVAL honors his senior season after compiling a 7-2 overall pitching record with an ERA of just 1.05.

Dave struck out 44 batters in 47 innings pitched that season.

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***Bill Stengele***

**1993**

**FOOTBALL, WRESTLING, TRACK**

Bill played three years of Varsity football, where he earned All DAL honors at center both his junior and senior seasons.

He was named 1<sup>st</sup> team ALL CCS center after his senior season, where he also garnered 1<sup>st</sup> team All DAL honors as a linebacker.

Bill wrestled his first three years at LGHS and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> at League Finals his junior year after placing 3<sup>rd</sup> his sophomore year.

In Bill's senior year he concentrated on throwing events in Track and Field, where he placed in the Top 8 at junior Nationals. He earned an athletic scholarship to the University of Washington as a thrower.

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***Alli White Payne***

**1995**

**VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL**

Alli was a three-year Varsity volleyball player, earning All League selections all three seasons.

Her junior and senior years she was also an All-CCS selection.

As a junior, she was part of the Wildcat's 1993 State Championship team and her senior

season she led her team to the NorCal Finals. Her senior year she led the team in kills, digs and had 120 blocks while being named the team MVP.

Alli went on to a four-year volleyball career at the University of Oregon where she started all four seasons being named Freshman of the Year, earning All Pac 10 honors her junior and senior years as well as being named team captain and MVP her senior year.

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***Amy Salfen***

**1999**

**SOCCER**

Amy started on the Varsity soccer team all four years at Los Gatos High.

She was first-team All De Anza Athletic League all four years of high school.

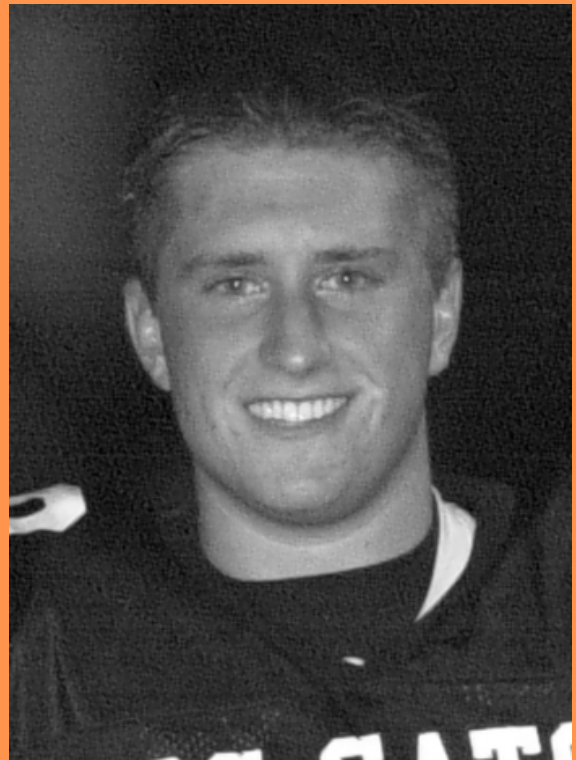
She was named to the 1<sup>st</sup> team All CCS team as a freshman when she was also named CCS Freshman of the Year.

She was selected League MVP her senior year and was an All-CCS selection 3 of her 4 years of varsity soccer.

Her teams made the CCS playoffs all four years and won a CCS championship her freshman season.

Amy earned an athletic scholarship to play soccer at the University of California Berkeley.

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***Alex Rollin***

**2003**

**FOOTBALL, BASEBALL**

As the quarterback, Alex led his football team to an undefeated season and a CCS Championship his senior year while earning first team all-league honors. During his four years at LGHS, he never played in a losing football game.

In baseball, Alex played all four years at the varsity level and was both an outstanding hitter and pitcher.

His junior year he was voted team MVP, was first team all-league, and 2nd team all-CCS. As a senior, he hit .439, had 6 home runs and 33 RBI along with a 12-3 record on the mound. He was first team all-league, 2nd team all-CCS, and received Cal-Hi All-State honors. Alex received a baseball scholarship to the University of California at Berkeley

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***Caroline Stege***

**2005**

**FIELD HOCKEY, SOCCER, TRACK, TENNIS**

Caroline was an All-League Field Hockey player who led her team in scoring her senior year. She was also named All CCS 2<sup>nd</sup> team. Her junior and senior field hockey teams were CCS champions.

She has the 10<sup>th</sup> fastest 400 time in LG history.

She was on the CCS Championship 4x400 relay in 2002 with the 4th fastest 4x400 in LG history.

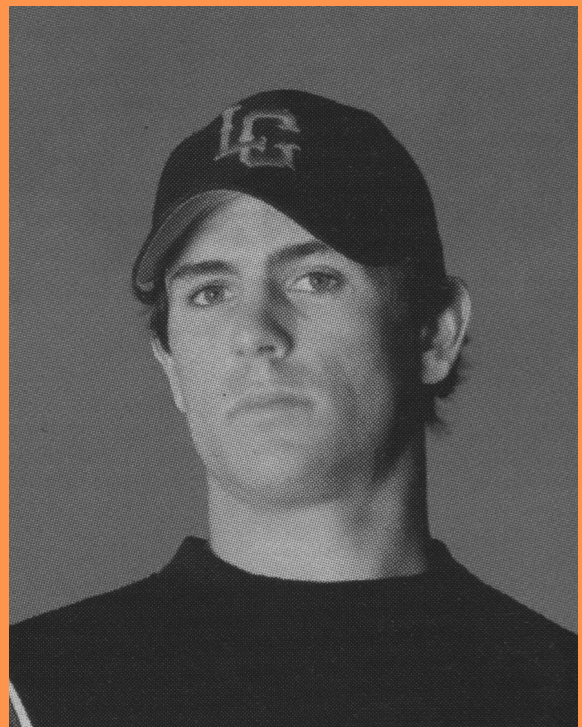
She ran on 3 League Championship 4x400 relay teams in 2002, 2003, and 2004 and those 3 teams all qualified for the State Track meet.

Her 4x400 relay was 12th in State in 2004.

She was on a League Championship team in 2002, 2003, 2004.

Caroline played 2years of soccer and also was an outstanding tennis player.

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***Kyle Blair***

**2007**

**WATER POLO, BASEBALL**

Kyle was an outstanding All League water polo player, but baseball was where he excelled.

He was as dominant a pitcher as Los Gatos High School has ever seen.

Kyle played on 3 SCVAL championship teams. Over his last two seasons, he was 22-3 with an ERA of 0.24 and 271 strikeouts against just 28 walks in 172 innings pitched.

He was twice named the League MVP, was a 3-time All CCS player, including being named CCS Player of the Year in 2007.

Kyle was named the San Jose Mercury News Athlete of the Year for 2006-07.

He earned a scholarship to USD and was drafted by the LA Dodgers out of high school and the Cleveland Indians during college.

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# THANK YOU

To the friends and businesses  
whose generosity helped make this  
evening a great success

**Justin Petersen / Section Sports**

- Program Printing

**Dan Mullins and Pro Signs**

- Posters

**Dave Lepori**

- Photography

**Tom Robinson / Jeff Benjamin**

- Sponsorship Support

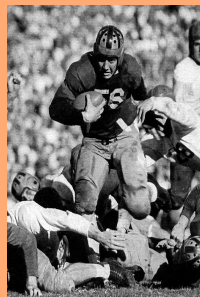
- Wine Selection

**Cathy Macierz**

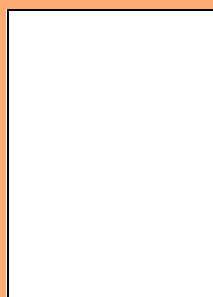
- Flowers

**La Rinconada Country Club**

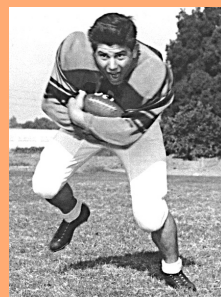
## 2004 Hall of Fame Inductees



Dave Anderson '35



Bob Chambers '44



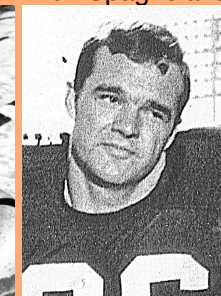
Ken Spagnola '54



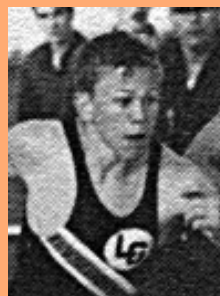
Hugh Campbell '59



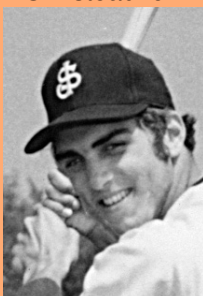
Chris Von Saltza  
Olmstead '61



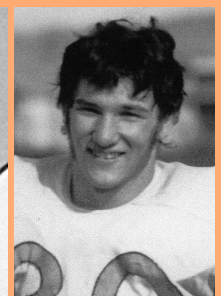
Bill Fairband '63



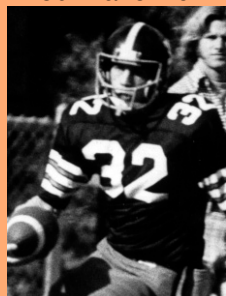
Bob Branon '64



Ed Siracusa '69



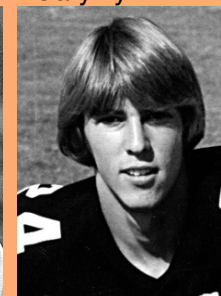
Gary Lynn '74



Holden Smith '76



Suzy Meckenstock-  
Seandel '82



Dave Bearden '82



Todd Mayo '85



Heidee Ruiz '88