

2020 HALL OF FAME BANQUET AND INDUCTION FAMILY, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, PLAYERS, COACHES

The Michigan High School Football Coaches Association once again was very proud to host the Hall of Fame Induction and Banquet. The first induction took place in 1982 at the M.H.S.F.C.A. clinic with the Inaugural Class being the Original Board of Directors and the 38th Annual Induction took place Saturday, March 7, 2020 for the third consecutive year at The Crowne Plaza Lansing West. It is truly an exceptional venue for this extraordinary event.

Scott Farley, Executive Director of the Association began the evening by giving an overview of the importance of the association. He highlighted the “Wall of Fame” and the “Virtual Hall of Fame” which are now displayed and available to all Michigan High School Football Fans.

Andrew Pratley, Head Football Coach at St. Joseph High School, and President of the M.H.S.F.C.A. welcomed everyone to the Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction.

Tom Fagan, past Hall of Fame Chairman expressed it best: “These coaches are: “The Best of the Best and the Finest of the Finest.” Including this year's inductees, the M. H. S. F. C. A. has inducted 769 of the finest high school football coaches in the state of Michigan into the Hall of Fame, and each induction has a personality all its own. ---“It Is The Greatest Profession In The World. Everyone Else Wants To Do What We Do.”

14 OUTSTANDING COACHES -- 14 OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS.

Because of the credentials compiled by these individuals, their names will be enshrined forever in the M.H.S.F.C.A. Hall of Fame, displayed at the University of Michigan’s football stadium. These gentlemen, at the time of their induction, at the high school related level, in the State of Michigan, have coached for a combined total of 440 seasons of coaching, have won 2,972 football games, along with a few championships ... but... most importantly, they have touched the lives of countless young people.

Comments by the M.H.S.F.C.A. Hall of Fame Inductees --- The Class of 2020

Coach Daniel Boggan III, J. W. Sexton: “I coached to develop young people into the best they could be as an athlete and as a person.”

Coach Mike Carr, Chippewa Valley: “Whatever I have given while coaching this amazing sport cannot come close to matching what I have been blessed to receive.”

Coach Gregory Carter, St. Martin DePorres: “Because of my involvement in coaching, I have been able to develop friendships that will truly last a lifetime.”

Coach Terry Copacia, Utica Eisenhower: “The hope was always that someday, former players would say they were proud of being a part of our team and proud of the success that they attained as a team.”

Coach Rick Corona, De La Salle Collegiate: “Football is the only “true team” sport. Many individual parts linked together. The team is like a chain, only as strong as its weakest link.”

Coach Tom Doane, Brighton: “Coaching has given me the opportunity to be a positive role model for the players I coached, the staff and students from the school I represented and the city where I live.”

Coach Brett Foerster, Portage Central: “I enjoyed every minute with the players. The good, the bad, or the ugly, it was great fun.”

Coach Steve Himburg, Clarkston Jr. High: “Coaching gives me an opportunity to help shape young men’s lives & coaching football has made a huge difference in my life ... plus it helps keep me young.”

Coach Brandon Oliver, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook: “Football coaching is a way of life. It has defined who I am, how I think, my beliefs, and how I deal with everyday issues.”

Coach Edward Lewis Radske, Marysville: “Football has given me the opportunity to coach and mentor a large number of outstanding young men, as well as to work with five Hall of Fame coaches.”

Coach Dennis Reinhart, Montrose: “The lifelong friendships that have been built with fellow coaches, the connections made with former players and when they return they still refer to you as coach.”

Coach Eric Lucius Smith, Detroit Central: “Football has been good to me and I wanted to give back the same opportunity that was given to me assisting the world in molding minds and developing character.”

Coach Peter Stuursma, East Grand Rapids: “Football is a great game, the best game, yet it is about the people who you get to work with and lessons learned from this game that make it special.”

Coach Jerry VanHavel, Mason: “Outside of family --- Mason football was the most thrilling and fullfilling part of my life.”

A big “Thank-You” is extended to the M.H.S.F.C.A. Executive Board and the Directors of the Association who take care of the many details that involve organizing, maintaining, and preparing for the evening. These are the members who, behind the scenes, give of their time and energy, with no thanks needed, to make this an exceptional evening for the inductees, their families and friends. Without them, this event would not be the extraordinary evening that it is.

The “Wall of Fame” is prominently displayed at the University of Michigan Football Stadium, “The Big House”, and the “Virtual Hall of Fame”, is up and running on the M.H.S.F.C.A. web site (mhsfca.com). Complete credentials and pictures of all inductees will be available in the very near future and you will also be able to hear their introductions and acceptance speeches.