



## Paul Arthur MacDonald

December 24, 1935 - April 11, 2024

ADRIAN- Paul Arthur MacDonald, age 88, of Adrian, Michigan died early Thursday morning, April 11, 2024 in the comfort of his home surrounded by family and under the care of Hospice of Lenawee.

Paul was a Christmas Eve baby, born on December 24, 1935 in Lakewood, OH the second of Arthur and Hilda (Miller) MacDonald's three children. He graduated from Berea High School in Ohio in 1954 and went on to earn his bachelors and master's from Bowling Green University in Exercise Science. Paul started his teaching career at Hoover High School in North Canton, OH, and during his seven years at HHS, he was the wrestling coach and helped his team win a state title. He moved on to Adrian College in 1966 and became deeply involved with both academics and coaching. Paul was a professor in exercise science and during his thirty years at AC, Paul taught over 20 different classes, with his later years focusing on Kinesiology and Exercise Physiology. He coached wrestling from 1966 to 1980 and won three consecutive titles from 1969 through 1971. Paul was also a coach for track and field. Paul was a groundbreaker in many different areas at AC. He was the Department Chair of the Exercise Science Department for many years, the first certified athletic trainer (nicknamed the Ice Man), and one of the first professors to take students abroad to study. Paul was the first Director of the Merillat Sports and Fitness Center. If you were a student at AC, you most likely had some connection with "Coach Mac". Paul earned many awards for his years of service and making a difference in the lives of students, some

acknowledgements included being inducted to the Hoover High School Hall of Fame in 2017 and the Adrian College Hall of Fame for his tenure as wrestling coach. In 2019, he was on the receiving end of the “Honoring Coach Mac Night” for his dedication to the wrestling program.

On June 9, 1984 Paul married Melinda “Mindy” Dygert in Angola, Indiana and she survives. During their 39 years of marriage Paul and Mindy shared many adventures, traveling to almost all 50 states, Australia and throughout Europe. Paul believed in exercising and keeping fit throughout his life. Once he retired, he decided to put more time into golf and he embraced this belief “all day and every day” if the weather allowed for it.

In addition to his loving wife, Mindy, Paul is survived by his children, Leslie (Robert) Murphy, Stuart (Lori) MacDonald, Tracy MacDonald; grandchildren, Brandon Murphy and Holly (Zak) Patton; a great-grandson Lucas Patton, and sister-in-law, Donna MacDonald. He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings, Jack MacDonald and Margaret MacDonald.

There will be a memorial Gathering of Family and Friends on Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Adrian College in the Bulldog Room, located in the Merillat Sports and Fitness Center.

Memorial contributions may be made to the MacDonald Study Abroad Scholarship at Adrian College or Hospice of Lenawee. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

APR **20**. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)  
1501 W. Maumee St.  
Adrian, MI 49221  
(517) 263-1400  
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

## Celebration of Life

APR **21**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Adrian College in the Bulldog Room  
146 S. Charles St.  
Merillat Sports and Fitness Center  
Adrian , MI 49221

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ I met Paul in Greece in 1972 as we both participated in the International Olympic Academy. Paul was an invited visiting scientist at Rusden State college in Melbourne. There, I introduced him to my family in Warrnambool, some 160 miles south-west. We arranged for him to go out on a crayfishing boat on a Saturday. We had to abandon the fishing and high tail it to the pier because of a rapid developing storm. Paul got tossed around a bit on the boat and was unable to eat the splendid lunch that my mother had prepared ! We later visited with Paul (including flying with him) and his family in 1976, and he introduced us to a used car dealer in Adrian where we bought our first car in the U.S. We paid \$225 for a low mileage Buick wagon, that ran for over 6 years and was ultimately sold for \$200 ! Most of the rusting floor was filled with old flip flops left at the pool at Kansas State University. I met Paul again in Washington DC, and only in the past couple of years did we learn that he and Mindy had a holiday place in Haines City, FL, just a few miles from where we are settled in Winter Haven. RIP Paul, and sincere condolences to Mindy and all of the MacDonald family. Julie & John Kermond

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**John Kermond** - June 29, 2024 at 04:54 PM

JS

“ I was on four of Coach Mac’s wrestling teams, 1967-1971. We won all MIAA matches and the three consecutive league championships teams are now in the Adrian College Hall of Fame. Much of what I learned under Coach MacDonald I was able to apply to my 11 years as a head high school coach first in Ohio and later Onsted, Michigan. As a physical education minor, I took many of his courses, including his famed Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries class. Coach MacDonald has made a variety of valuable contributions to Adrian College during his long tenure and will be greatly missed as an AC supporter. My condolences to all families and friends.

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**Jim Seitz** - April 21, 2024 at 11:40 AM

AS

“ Amanda S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul Arthur MacDonald.

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**Amanda S.** - April 20, 2024 at 10:16 AM

JW

“ Jeff W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul Arthur MacDonald.

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**Jeff W.** - April 20, 2024 at 08:26 AM

LB

“ Leslie Blaker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Paul Arthur MacDonald.

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**Leslie Blaker** - April 19, 2024 at 03:53 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Paul Arthur MacDonald.*



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April 19, 2024 at 03:53 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Paul macdonald*



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**Lori MacDonald** - April 18, 2024 at 11:46 PM



“ *To Paul's family, you have my sincerest sympathy. I wrestled on Paul's teams for 4 years in the late 60's at Adrian. The lessons he taught me have been life long guides.*  
*Walt Pickett*

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**Walt Pickett** - April 17, 2024 at 09:12 AM



“ *Adrian College Athletics Department purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Paul Arthur MacDonald.*



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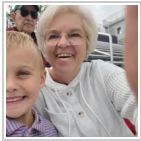
**Adrian College Athletics Department** - April 15, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear of Professor MacDonald's passing. My condolences to the family. I remember a number of classes at AC in the late 70's with Professor MacDonald. One vivid memory is being scolded, not too seriously, because I didn't inform him of a summer bike trip. He wished he could have taken before and after strength measurements. He will be remembered.*

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**Matt Harpst** - April 13, 2024 at 08:45 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. Sending love and condolences to Mindy and all who loved him.*

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**Mary Macomber** - April 12, 2024 at 12:16 PM