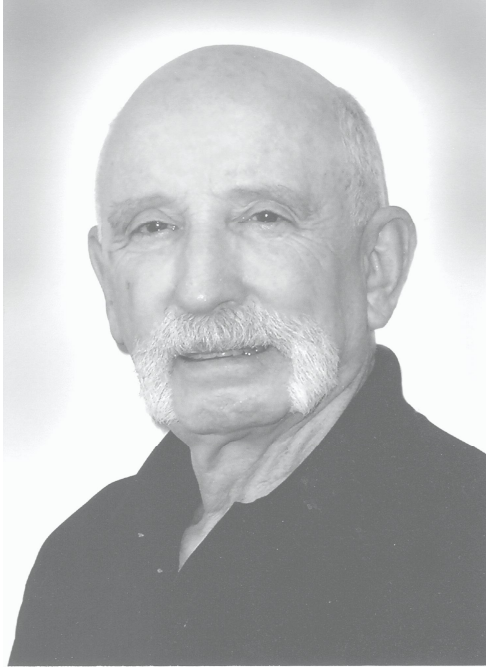


Pete Venier



The Long Island chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame & Museum is proud to lift up Peter Venier of Wantagh for induction into the Hall.

Pete attended Wantagh High School where he was a Long Island Wrestling Champion. He and his twin brother were outstanding wrestlers at Colgate University. Pete volunteered as an assistant wrestling coach at Connetquot High School. Several of the young men he tutored became County Champions.

Pete began photographing the local wrestlers and his photography expertise soon became nationally known. Pete first became a well-known figure at high school tournaments and meets in New York State, and then he expanded his domain to college dual meets and the NCAA tournaments. Venier's expertise with the lens is beyond that of other cameramen. He is not just a journalist taking photos, but a wrestler who captures his love for the sport on film. He anticipates the action and mentally places himself in the bout, rarely missing a scoring action shot with the camera. Twenty-three of his photos have been selected for *Amateur Wrestling News* and *Wrestling USA*. Hundreds of his photos have appeared in publication, including *Win Magazine*, *New York State Wrestling News*, *Wrestling Master*, *The Mat Slap*, and *Suffolk County News*.

In addition, numerous college wrestling guides have featured his photos including Iowa, Oklahoma State, Penn State, Ohio State, Fresno State, Boston University, Nebraska, Lehigh, and Clarion.

His personal portfolio includes letters of appreciation from Dan Gable, John Smith, Carl Adams, Ken DeStefanis, Nick Gallo, Neil Duncan, Rich Lorenzo, Tom Hutchinson, Kerry McCoy, and many others. Pete's volunteer career in wrestling has lasted for over 50 years.

Thanks for all the service you have rendered to wrestling. The induction ceremony and dinner are set for April 24, 2009 at the Hilton Long Island in Melville. Please call the Long Island Chapter for more information @ 516-804-8676.