



Gene Vogt, a 1967 graduate of Wattsburg High school was one of the top defensive football players to ever come out of Wattsburg. "Mean Gene" as he is called, personifies the meaning of competitor lettering multi years in football, wrestling and track. Gene wasn't the biggest player on the defense, but no one had more heart. He would hit and kick and claw his way to the runner, then punish them as he brought them down. His successes earned him a place in the 1967 Save-n-Eye Allstar Football game for the county team. Gene then went on to play semi-pro ball for the Erie Jets. One of the many great sports stories he has was when he entered the National Tough Man Competition, held locally at the Erie Count Field House. After winning a grueling fight with an opponent much larger than him, Gene was interviewed by the local sports channel. The interviewer questioned Gene on his preparations for the event and when asked if he would ever do it again, Gene, face all bloodied looked into the camera and said, "Hell yes, I have to do it again tomorrow night". These days Gene enjoys a little less dangerous sport. Drag racing throughout the country keeps "Mean Gene" in front of the spectator, entertaining them with some very impressive machines. Gene is a second generation commercial and residential painter and the owner of Vogt Finishes in Erie, Pa. Gene has been successful in several business ventures in the Erie area including an insurance and investment firm as well as Mean Gene's Proformance and Machine Shop, specializing in high performance engines. He and his wife Janet spend their summer months in Greenfield Twp. and have 5 children, all graduates of Seneca. Gene and Janet keep very busy with their 11 grandchildren and are proud great grandparents of 1, so far.