

Wolfgang Dozauer (1933-2018)



Wolfgang Dozauer died on November 20, 2018, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at the age of 85. Wolfgang was born in 1933 in Edlhausen, Germany, to Wolfgang and Maria Dozauer. He survived difficult war years during which he completed technical degrees. He emigrated to Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1954 and to Windsor, Ontario, the following year. From there, he was recruited by Newt Loken and given a gymnastics scholarship to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He was among the first male cheerleaders at U-M football games and displayed his athletic skills down Woodward Avenue during Detroit's

Thanksgiving Day parades. His scholarships enabled Wolfgang to earn a degree in comparative literature, a dream not available to him in Germany. He was a dissertation shy of a PhD. Aside from an assignment in Germany between 1977 and 1982, he lived his long, active life in Ann Arbor. There he met Elke, his loving wife of 44 years. He taught German, swimming, and gymnastics and coached gymnastics, swimming, and diving teams at Pioneer and Huron High Schools. In addition to gymnastics, Wolfgang loved skiing, soccer, diving, scuba diving, swimming, and tennis. In 2000 with Elke, he joined the local running community and frequently participated in races winning numerous age-group medals. Wolfgang is survived by Elke; his brother Rudi in Iowa; brother-in-law Helmut; lifelong friends Carol, Wendy, Sam and Jim; and many nieces and nephews in the US and in Germany. He was preceded in death by sisters Johanna and Theresa and brothers Ferdinand and Heinrich. Wolfgang donated his body to U-M for medical research. Wolfgang was a lover of opera and art, a storyteller, a dedicated athlete, a classic car buff, a machinist, an irrepressible repairer, an educator, and a fine husband and friend.

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