

## Profile

### Erik (Rick) Pedersen



After graduation from Leyden in the Spring of 1959, I went to Eastern Illinois University. I majored in Physical Education and took part in athletics. It was at Eastern that I met my wife Janice Miller. After four years I was offered a graduate assistant position and went on to complete my master's degree at EIU.

Jan and I moved to Riverdale, Illinois for two years. She taught in South Holland and I taught in Harvey. After two years I decided to go to Indiana University to work on a doctorate. Two years later I accepted a assistant professor position at Eastern Michigan University. The doctorate was completed in 1973.

My 37 years at Eastern Michigan included many interesting experiences. During that time I taught over 40 different courses, coached wrestling, chaired two department divisions, and supervised student teachers. I was fortunate enough to receive several teaching excellence awards.

Professionally related experiences included being president of our state association, serving on state, mid-west, and national organizations. I wrote regular features for our state and mid-west journals. Articles centered on international games, history, and fitness. I have collected one of the largest privately owned sport artifact collections in the country.

Jan and I have four children. They are Erik, Kirk, Krista, and Brett. Erik is married, has three children, and lives in Fredrick, Maryland. He received his PHD in environmental engineering from Purdue University. Kirk is single, received his MS in Education and teaches at the high school level in Michigan. Krista is a children's librarian and has MS Degrees in Library Science and Children's

Literature. She presently works in Bay City, Mi.. Our youngest, Brett, is married and teaches at the junior high level in Northville, Mi.

Jan and I have several interests. Of course travel is one area we want to pursue. We share going to adult education classes and art interests. My hobbies include wood working, carving, landscaping, and genealogy research. However, my biggest area of interest is music. I play guitar and still sing the old folk songs from the 60's. I also belong to a men's choral group called Measure for Measure.

An unfortunate spinal cord injury to our son Kirk has limited our time for outside interests. We are hoping he will recover enough to become independent.