

Tribute to Gene Wedge

Gene's death was a surprise and I want to express my condolences to his family.

I went to high school (The Academy at Arcadia) and played football with Gene. Gene was the Quarterback/Halfback. We always teased Gene about one particular play... the #3 pitchout pass. In this play, the Fullback would get the ball and act as if he was diving into the line. He would instead hand the ball to the Quarterback who would pitch the ball to the Halfback. The Halfback, Gene in this case, would run right and look for the Tight End, who would be running down field.

The play took so long to develop that the Tight End was almost always so far down the field, and so many defenders were chasing Gene, that he just ran the ball. He rarely had time to pass the ball and usually ran it instead. The Tight End would grumble, "pass the ball" each time this play was called, but it rarely happened. We all started calling the play the "Gene Wedge Sweep." He took our teasing...and just kept running the ball on that particular play!

Gene was a good friend during those years and it was always good to see him when we returned to the Academy.

My regards to Gene's family.