

The IMAGIN Geospatial Achievement Award honors an IMAGIN member in recognition of their dedication and commitment to the IMAGIN organization, its geospatial professionals, colleagues, members and the public that it serves.





The Winner Is...





Dave Frey





A Bit About Dave Frey

- Graduated from Wylie E. Groves High School, Birmingham, MI
- Graduated from Michigan State University with a B.S. in Geology







A Bit About Dave Frey

- Worked for Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) between Undergraduate and Graduate School
- Graduated from the Michigan State
 University College of Urban Affairs with a
 Masters Degree in Resource Development





A Bit About Dave Frey

- Hosted a late night jazz radio show while at MSU
- Participated in a "Mock Band" (air guitar, etc.) while at MSU
- Worked for MSU Center for Remote Sensing, twice for the Legislative Service Bureau and the Northwest RC&D Council prior to starting at LIAA





Dave's IMAGIN Involvement

- Was one of the original persons that were responsible for the creation of the IMAGIN Project that was conceived in 1991 and funded by a three year grant from the Kellogg Foundation
- Responsible for the IMAGIN Conference for at least the first 10 years







Dave's IMAGIN Involvement

- Was one of the original board members and was a board member for many years
- Served in the capacity of Secretary and Treasurer during his tenure on the board
- Dave was a contributing editor to the ImagiNews for several years writing a column called "Tips and Tricks"





Dave's IMAGIN Involvement

- Was one of the original authors of the (ISDN)
 IMAGIN Data Sharing Network
- Authored the metadata tool "DataLogger" for IMAGIN that preceded any ESRI method of capturing metadata. This tool was available for members of the IMAGIN data sharing community to use. "DataLogger" was sold to the State of Minnesota for use as their statewide metadata tool.



From Dave's Peers:

I recall Dave Frey as our "truth in consequences" guy in the geospatial world. Dave was one of the very few people who knew geospatial analysis and database management from the inside out back in the early C-Map and IMAGIN days. He was so good at it that he became the original "Tips and Tricks" guy in the early ImagiNews. And he always had a wry sense of humor! Who else would start an article with "Suddenly, out of the blue I found myself doing a pile of dBase programming ...?" Ya gotta love a guy who loves doing seriously heady stuff ... but doesn't take himself too seriously in the process.

Michael Beaulac
Office of the Great Lakes
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality





From Dave's Peers:

Bill Enslin introduced me to Dave at a C-Map conference in Grayling (eeeeks, that's probably 25 years ago). Anyway, I was at the hotel with my colleague, Julie Gales (another earth science/geology person) representing the Science and Technology Division of LSB. Bill was sitting with Dave in a booth at the hotel restaurant. Bill saw us and invited us over. We were introduced by first names; then, Julie burst out with: "You're not Dave - Your Destructo!" Julie and Dave later explained that they had been at a geology camp together and Dave had gained a reputation for destruction by pulling down some shelving and everything on it (an accident, he says). I asked Dave to come work for the LSB within a week. I mean, how could you walk away from Destructo!

Joe VanderMeulen





IMAGIN Geospatial Achievement Award From Dave's Peers:

Dave Frey contributed so much to getting a GIS community started in Michigan it's hard to know where begin. Back in the days of C-MAP and WellKey and groundwater protection, Dave was everywhere. Doing workshops, training people to use the software, and was always ready to answer a question on the phone. Dave was the glue behind the first decade of so of IMAGIN conferences. Maybe most notably, Dave had a knack for making people care about metadata. In a DataLogr training sometime about 2000, Dave held up a can of soup and read the label - "Mama's Best Minestrone" or something like that. "That must be pretty good - Mama wouldn't put anything but the best in." Then he turns the can around and reads the label - corn syrup, MSG, artificial colors and preservatives, and so on.

In 20+ years of listening to any number of people from professors to the FGDC Executive Secretary talk about metadata, I don't think anyone else has expressed it as clearly and succinctly. And virtually no one else managed to smile while they were doing it.

Stephen S. Aichele, Ph.D. Geographer, USGS National Geospatial Program





From Dave's Peers:

Dave and I were working together to develop the first Community Information System (ever!) in CRA's basement (Northwest Michigan RC&D Council, at the time). Nerds in the basement ... I guess. Dave was doing the programming - building on top of C-Map - with the very first version of Visual Basic (full of bugs, as I recall). We had been working on inventing this thing for a about year ... including the first integration of GIS and multimedia data for public access. But, we had made promises to the foundations and a big deadline loomed: The role out to Acme Township officials and citizens. For the better part of a week, we had almost no sleep. Dave worked through the last night ... actually 24 hours straight to get the thing working properly.

Continued.....



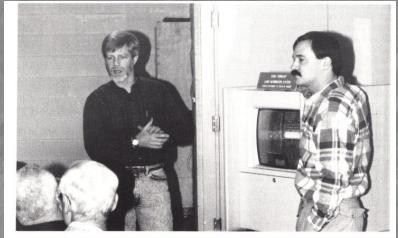


From Dave's Peers:

Then, as pictured, we found ourselves in front of an audience. Even in that really low rez picture, you can see that Dave doesn't look so good. In fact, as I gave the presentation, he was leaning on the kiosk to keep from falling over! Seriously. Yes, he was present, but was basically unable to speak. If you listen, you can hear him snoring.

And that's the kind of commitment
Dave exhibited in all the years I've
known him. He got it done!
Personable, dangerously smart,
compassionate, and committed,
Dave has been a great friend and
colleague all this time.

Continued.....



Joe VanderMeulen (left) and Dave Frey explain the features of their interactive computerized land information kiosk.



From Dave's Peers:

As I said, his work with IMAGIN, helped steady it and keep it going in the early years. As the co-founder of LIAA 24 years ago, he provided GIS and GPS instruction, project coordination and outreach to dozens of local governments. In fact, he should be credited with helping many local officials actually see the value of GIS for the first time. If there's such a thing as a GIS hero in Michigan, it's Dave Frey.

Thanks for letting me share this.

Joe VanderMeulen



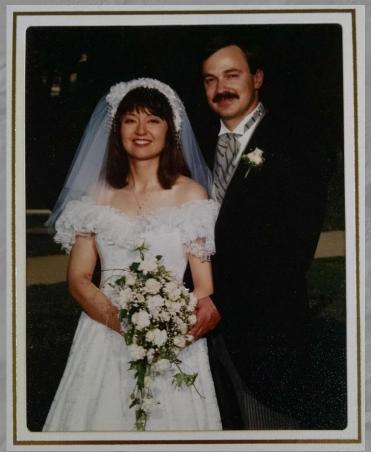


Dave's Personal Interests

- Married his wife Miae in 1991
- Loves bicycling, camping, curling
- Two children, Daniel (b. 1992) and Marisa (b. 1996)
- Red Wings hockey fan



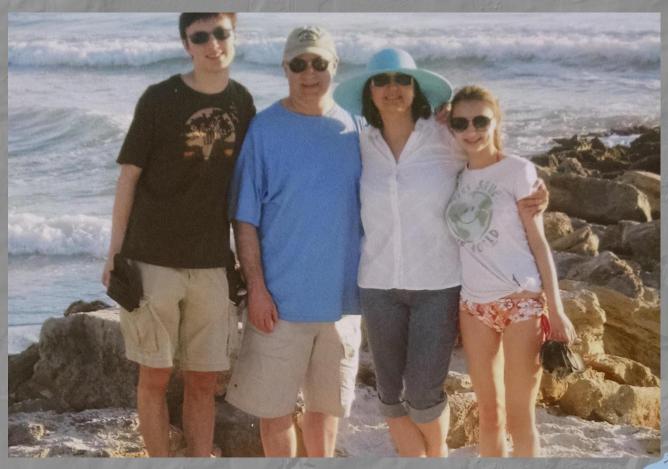


















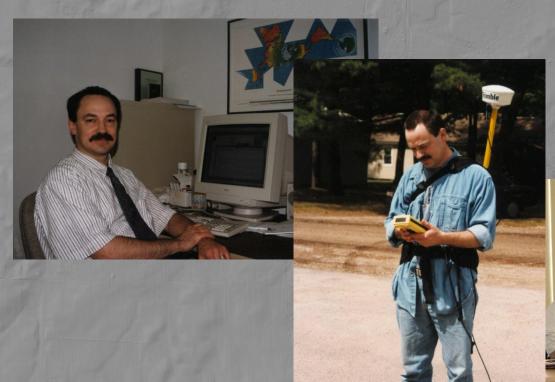




















Let's Congratulate Dave Frey



IMAGIN's
Geospatial
Achievement
Award Winner for
2016



