

DAVE SMITH

Driver

It takes a special kind of courage and skill to be a successful figure 8 racer. There may have been no other better than Dave Smith. His journey to the Hall of Fame began at the age of 14 at Oxford Plains Speedway when he took a shot at driving his brother Ed's charger car. His mom, his brother, and even Bob Bahre himself put a hold on things, claiming he wasn't ready (or old enough) to compete yet. Fast forward four years and Dave teamed up with his friend Willie Buffington. He started back up in the charger class and picked up his first win in 1978. Six more wins followed that year, but there was much more success to come for the young driver. He would soon switch to the figure-8 class and it didn't take him long to realize he had found his true calling in racing, and the wins started stacking up quickly. He took home 4 figure-8 championships from 1979 through 1984. In 1987 he set an Oxford Plains record with 21 wins in a single season, a record that still stands today. All told, in his long career in Chargers and Figure 8, he won 112 races putting him third on the track's all-time win list. He was a devoted family man and a true racer through and through. Today he is inducted posthumously by his good friend and fellow Hall of Famer Jon Lizotte. Congratulations to "The Figure 8 King" Dave Smith on his induction into the Maine Motorsports Hall of Fame.

