



# MIKE TESTA

## CLASS OF 2008

GOING TO WRESTLING

Tonight, Mike Testa follows in his father's footsteps; Rich Testa was inducted into the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame three years ago. Both father and son built their Hall of Fall credentials with the Wayland wrestling program. Mike was both an individual and team state champion during his career with the Warriors before graduating in 2008.

During his four years as a starter on the mat, Mike was a Division 3 state champion, a two-time sectional champion and All-State finalist, a New England place-winner, and a three-time Wayland Holiday Tournament champion. He finished his career with 131 wins, the most in the program. Mike wrestled at 130 pounds in his senior year, 119 in his junior year and at 103 as a sophomore and freshman.



The career highlight for Mike was in his sophomore year when fellow 2017 Wayland Hall of Fame inductee Joe Manley helped lead the Warriors to the inaugural state dual meet championship in 2006. "That was the best part," said Testa. "It was the first year the MIAA instituted a new attempt for a team championship. We had no heavyweight and gave up six points every match. But we were unbeaten in dual meets and went on to win the team state championship. We crushed teams on the way to the team state championship. It was an amazing team."



Mike, who started wrestling in a youth program when the family lived in Natick, went on to wrestle three-plus years for Johns Hopkins University before suffering a season-ending injury his senior year. "I wrestled for a long time and really enjoyed it," he said. "The camaraderie is like no other sport. In college, it was a good experience at the D3 level, a good balance with school and sport. I enjoyed Baltimore. It was a great four years. It was the place where I met my fiancé (Kaitlyn O'Brien). I wouldn't trade it for anything."

After graduating from college in 2012, Mike now lives in Boston and is in business doing health care consulting. He also coaches wrestling at BC High.

Tonight's induction banquet will be a special time for Mike with his father and former Wayland teammate. "I'm really excited to share this with Joe," said Testa. "I'm excited for him as well. Joe was a senior on that team and has done a lot to give back to the program. And my father was a huge influence in my wrestling career, starting as just a boy through my college career."

