

Hi Robbie,

What an honor to be invited to meet you by Coach Scott! I am very intrigued and interested to hear about your special stick. Perhaps we can meet in person and you can tell me about it sometime.

You know, Robbie, I don't even know where to start...lacrosse has been such a major part of my life for as long as I can remember. I am the youngest of three brothers. My older brothers, Bill (National Lacrosse Hall of Fame) and Tom, played before me at Massapequa High School and then Cornell University, where they racked up all sorts of awards and championships (too many to mention here). I tell you this because I could not have been more fortunate in my lacrosse "upbringing." Not only were my brothers true stars of the game—but I was fortunate to spend time with their teammates and coaches—true legends of the game. What a treat!

When I received the Turnbull Award in 1986—I was already familiar with it because my brothers' teammates had received it in prior years. To be in the same group as the likes of Mike O'Neill (Hopkins) and Mike French and Eamon McEananey (Cornell) (not to mention Jack himself), was very humbling to me and also a true honor.

As I look back on the game and think of some recommendations for you, I would start with the thought, "Be that guy!" Be that guy on your team who wants the ball at the end of the game. Be that guy in your business that people want to work with or for. Be that guy who gets things done when they need to get done. Also—anticipate and understand the game. Stay ahead of what is going on. What are you doing when you don't have the ball? Are you setting up a cut or shot? Anticipate what is next. I believe my anticipation of the game was developed from the countless High School, College and Club lacrosse games I watched of my older brothers.

I can't say enough about what my brothers, teammates, and coaches have meant to me all these years. I simply would not have achieved anything without their help. My coaches were great, coaches Adams, Long, and Arena at Virginia (two are in the Lacrosse Hall of Fame and the other [Arena] is in the Long Island Lacrosse and National *Soccer* Halls of Fame!). I owe a lot of my development and success to Coach Jeff Long and his arrival at UVA my junior year. He pushed me to succeed and to believe in my abilities as a player. My teammates are still among my very best friends. I had so, so many highlights but they all just wrap into a truly wonderful experience in the game.

Best of luck with your stick. Keep working on your skills and keep studying the game. I hope we get to connect soon.

Sincerely,

Roddy Marino

University of Virginia 1986

Turnbull Award 1986

Team USA 1986, 1990

National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Class of 2002