

## GARY "BULL" BULLIS CLASS OF 1979



Gary ("Bull") Bullis grew up in an active, athletic family. His father, Ray, was a teacher and coach at Mynderse for over 30 years and is also being inducted into MA's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014. Gary's brothers, Mike, Ron, and Greg and sister, Patty, were all multi-sport, multi-letter winners at Mynderse. That active, athletic, "always do your best in everything you do" way of life

was instilled and nurtured in the Bullis kids by their mother, Lori, and father. Priority was given to practice as much as game day. And Gary always liked practice. That priority has led to successes both on and off the field of competition for Gary.

School work was also a priority. Gary had many great friends who took pride in doing well in school. Gary was not only a Block M member and the 1979 SMS Beatini award winner (outstanding male athlete), but a National Honor Society member, Junior Rotarian, Boys State representative, and a recipient of the Fredenburg Scholarship. At Cornell, he was a member of The Sphinxhead Society, an athletic honor society based on character, leadership, and service to Cornell.

As a Blue Devil, Gary lettered 9 seasons in three sports: Football – 3 years; Wrestling - 4 years; Baseball – 2 years. He notes the 8-0-1 FL East Football Championship his junior year and the many wrestling team tournament championships Mynderse brought home his junior and senior years as his highlights. He was team captain of the football team his senior year and of the wrestling team his junior and senior years.

In football under Coach Dave Geitner for three years, Gary was an All-State linebacker in '78 and Times Union Super 22 linebacker in '77, All Greater Rochester running back '78, and All League FL East running back and linebacker in both '77

and '78. Gary started every game his sophomore year at linebacker in 1976. The 1977 MA team won the league with an 8-0-1 record and was highly ranked in the state just years prior to the NY State playoffs. Gary rushed for over 1,000 yards in 1978 and over 800 yards in 1977.

In wrestling under Coach Dan Caraher, Gary started all four years at 138, 145, and then 155 his junior and senior years. He notes that wrestling with Steve Kelley and Mike Patak in the wrestling room was tougher than wrestling other schools. Gary compiled a 94-17 record for Mynderse and helped bring home numerous team tournament championships. He was the outstanding wrestler of Oswego, Cal-Mum, Midlakes, and Waterloo tournaments; Sectional Champion his junior year and runner-up his sophomore and senior years.

Under Coach John Nicholson in baseball, Gary was a third baseman and catcher his junior and senior years. Though he would have loved to play lacrosse for Coach Al Henry and had the size and speed for it, baseball was and still is Gary's favorite sport.

At Cornell University, Gary played football all four years and wrestled for three. In football his freshman year, he was named offensive team captain for the season's first game demonstrating his leadership skills, toughness as well as his athletic ability. At year end, he was awarded offensive player of the year (running back) even at 5'9" 180 lbs. He was the team's starting swingback his junior and senior years and also on the kick-off team as well as holder for field goals and extra points. He wrestled his freshman, sophomore, and senior years and won multiple wrestler of the meet awards and an Ivy League team championship his senior year.

Gary has resided in Maryland since 1983 and is Director of Operations and New Business Development for Parking Management, Inc. in Washington DC. He currently is an 18 year wrestling official having officiated 7 Maryland State Wrestling Tournaments. He is an avid boater on the Chesapeake Bay and is an active member of Maryland Yacht Club.