

Janisha Craft graduated from Osceola High School in 1993 after a standout four-year career on the women's basketball team. While she briefly explored track and volleyball, basketball was always her true passion. Her talent began to shine during her junior year, when she emerged as the third-leading scorer in Pinellas County, averaging 23.5 points per game, and earned selection to the PCAC All-Conference Team.

Her senior year marked an extraordinary peak in her high school career. Janisha became one of Pinellas County's top ten basketball prospects, leading the county with an impressive 35.8 points per game. She was selected to compete with Team USA, traveling internationally to tournaments in Montreal, Canada, and Aruba. That same year, she was named Osceola High School's Outstanding Senior Female Athlete and was honored as an Eyewitness Sports "Hardy's Hero" by WTVT Channel 13. She also set a Pinellas County record for most points scored in a single game, totaling an incredible 62 points.

Following high school, Janisha earned a full basketball scholarship to Miami Dade Community College and later Lynn University, continuing to pursue her dream of playing professionally. Unfortunately, her promising career was cut short after she fractured her femur in a serious automobile accident. Despite this setback, she remained connected to the game by coaching with the Police Athletic League for several years.

Today, Janisha enjoys supporting sports from the stands, offering guidance and encouragement to young athletes when asked, and spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys traveling and reflecting proudly on a remarkable basketball legacy.



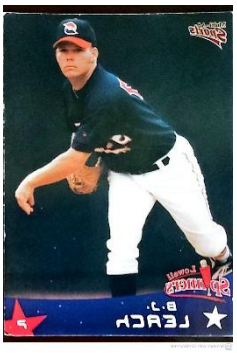
Stephanie Houp earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from Florida State University in 2009, followed by a Juris Doctorate from the Florida State University College of Law in 2015. She has spent nearly a decade serving the State of Florida in various administrative law capacities. Before joining the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), Stephanie served as legal counsel for both the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Department of Children and Families. In May 2021, Stephanie was promoted to General Counsel and appointed as an Executive Member of the Division, where she provides legal guidance to the Executive Team on all matters impacting the agency. In April 2024, she advanced further to become the Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel of FDEM

Throughout her tenure, Stephanie has played a vital role in Florida's emergency response operations. She served as legal counsel during the State's COVID-19 response, overseeing and supervising all contracts and legal agreements related to the pandemic while ensuring compliance with state and federal law. She has participated in more than 30 emergency

activations, including deployment to the Surfside building collapse, where she worked closely with local, state, and federal partners.

Most recently, Stephanie provided legal counsel during simultaneous activations for Hurricane Milton, Hurricane Helene, and Mass Migration. She also served as Head of Operations for debris removal following Hurricane Ian - managing upland debris, derelict vessels, and waterway cleanup efforts. Over the years, she has taken on several acting leadership roles within the Division, including Chief of Staff and Human Resources Director.

Beyond her professional achievements, Stephanie is a proud wife and mother of seven. Her husband is a software engineer for the State of Florida. A native of St. Petersburg, Florida, Stephanie fondly credits her "best AP English teacher-and mom," Ms. Stach, for inspiring her early love of learning and excellence.



BJ Leach graduated from Osceola High School and went on to attend Florida Southern College, where he played baseball and earned national recognition. In 1999, he was named NCAA Division II National Player of the Year and National Pitcher of the Year, and also earned the honor of Sunshine State Male Athlete of the Year. His accomplishments led to his induction into both the Florida Southern College Hall of Fame and the Sunshine State Conference Hall of Fame.

He was selected in the 14th round of the Major League Baseball Draft and spent four years pitching in the Boston Red Sox organization.

Following his professional baseball career, he dedicated nearly 20 years to public service with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, serving as a deputy, corporal, and sergeant before retiring in 2024.

He has been married to his wife, Brenda, for 20 years and is the proud father of two sons, Braden and Bradley. He currently manages 5 Star Baseball Academy, where he continues to share his passion for the game through coaching and baseball instruction.



Tony Mione is an accomplished athlete, decorated combat veteran, and proud husband and father. A 1998 graduate of Osceola High School, Tony finished fifth in his class with a 4.13 GPA, earning *summa cum laude* honors and an impressive list of distinctions, including:

- Principal's *Spirit of the Warriors* Award (1998)
- National Honor Society, ARISTA National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, and Spanish National Honor Society

- U.S. Army Reserve National Scholar Athlete Award
- President's Award for Educational Excellence
- SPJC Trustee Scholarship for Academic Achievement
- Tandy Technology Scholar Award
- Outstanding OHS Male Athlete of the Year (1998)

A four-year letterman on the boys' soccer team, Tony served as team captain and Most Valuable Player during the 1997–98 season, leading the Warriors to PCAC, District, and Regional championships, and to their first-ever appearance in the State Final Four, earning a top-five statewide ranking. He was selected to the Tampa Bay Senior All-Star Team and named to the First Team All-Conference and Second Team All-County. In addition to soccer, he was a two-year member of the golf team, a four-year member of the concert and marching bands, and was chosen by his classmates as *Most Likely to Succeed*.

Tony's academic and athletic excellence earned him a congressional appointment to the United States Air Force Academy from Congressman C.W. "Bill" Young. He graduated and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in May 2002, beginning a distinguished 22-year career as an Air Force pilot—12 years on active duty and 10 as a full-time Reserve Officer.

During his military service, Tony deployed four times to the Middle East and accumulated over 4,000 flight hours, including 800 hours in direct combat support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Inherent Resolve, Freedom's Sentinel, and Enduring Sentinel. His missions also included vital humanitarian operations following global crises such as Hurricane Katrina (2005), the Haiti earthquake (2010), and Japan's Fukushima nuclear disaster (2011). He retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel on December 31, 2024.

Today, Tony continues his passion for aviation as a First Officer with United Airlines, flying Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft domestically and throughout Europe.

Tony met the love of his life, Juliana, in 2012 while stationed in Dover, Delaware. They married the following year and have built a life grounded in shared values, resilience, and love. Together, they are raising two daughters, Rowan and Reese, who embody their parents' dedication to learning, kindness, and service to others.



Linda Nundy grew up in Pinellas County and is a proud graduate of Dixie Hollins High School. She graduated with honors from the University of South Florida and went on to teach business education at Osceola High School from 1984 to 2010. Over the course of her career, she witnessed—and embraced—the evolution of business education, transitioning from typing and dictation to software and computer-based instruction.

Known for her high expectations and genuine care for students, Linda frequently taught multiple course levels and, at times, different classes during the same period to ensure no student missed an opportunity to advance. In addition to her classroom teaching, she served as the Business Cooperative Education Advisor, placing students in jobs throughout the county and preparing them for the rapidly changing world of business and technology. Under her guidance, students consistently excelled in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitions at both the district and state levels, including one student who advanced to national competition in 1990.

As business department chair, Linda managed budgets, staffing, and scheduling while tirelessly promoting the department and its programs. Her dedication and excellence were recognized when she was named Pinellas County Business Educator of the Year and nominated for Seminole Educator of the Year.

Beyond the classroom, Linda served as junior class sponsor for more than 25 years, planning and executing over 25 proms. She helped establish the Principal's Brunch, organized the annual Christmas breakfast for the Seminole Lake Rotary Club, and prepared and meticulously proofread graduation programs—often returning even after retirement to ensure everything ran smoothly.

Since retiring, Linda has enjoyed spending more time in her sewing room, sleeping past 5 a.m., and sharing cherished moments with her family, especially her three granddaughters.



Laurie (Moreau) Scaffidi is a decorated scholar-athlete and accomplished sales leader whose determination and resilience have defined her success in academics, athletics, and her professional career.

At Osceola High School (Class of 2003), Laurie became one of the most accomplished swimmers in school history. She broke nine individual school records and excelled in sprint and middle-distance freestyle events. A four-time State Qualifier, Warrior Club Honoree, Swim Team MVP, and Team Captain her junior and senior years, she earned numerous accolades, including:

- All-American, 200 free (2002)
- State Runner-Up, 200 free (2001), 100 free (2002)
- All-County Swimmer of the Year (2002)
- District and Conference Champion, 200 free (2002)

Laurie was equally exceptional academically. She graduated Summa Cum Laude as Valedictorian and was active in the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the Spanish National Honor Society. She earned recognition as a USA Swimming Scholastic

All-American, a St. Pete Times Scholar Athlete, and received multiple subject-area achievement awards. One of her most meaningful honors was the “Spirit of the Warriors” Award for academic excellence, leadership, and service.

Laurie continued her swimming career at the University of Florida, lettering all four years and earning SEC Academic Honor Roll honors each season. She concluded her collegiate career with the Gator Achievement Award, recognizing leadership, academic performance, and character. She graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration (Marketing).

After college, Laurie built a successful 17-year career in the wine and spirits industry in Atlanta, Georgia, holding multiple sales leadership roles and guiding high-performing teams in a fast-paced, relationship-driven field.

In Atlanta, she met her husband, Carl, and they now celebrate 15 years of marriage. Together, they are raising three active children—Avery (9), Senner (6), and Everett (3). Laurie enjoys volunteering at their school and staying involved in all their sports and activities.



Ethan Walker was born in Long Beach, California, in 1978. Two years later, his family relocated to St. Petersburg, Florida, where he attended local public schools—elementary through Osceola High School—graduating in 1996.

Ethan grew up in a family that prioritized faith, hard work, and athletic excellence. His father, Robert, wrestled for the University of Alabama—Roll Tide—and went on to become a national Greco-Roman champion, placing third in the world in 1979. His mother, Trish, has always been a steady source of guidance, encouragement, and example. Ethan’s brother, David, became a multiple-time state champion and national place winner, finishing second at nationals in both freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling. His sisters, Joy and Erin, were standout soccer players and strong scholars in their own right.

Ethan’s wrestling journey began in the mid-1980s when he joined the club his father started at Lakewood High School. The family traveled across Florida for tournaments, and Ethan’s dedication quickly set him apart. He became one of the top wrestlers in the state for his age and weight class, earning fifth place at the 1994 AAU National Wrestling Tournament in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

During his junior and senior years at Osceola High, Ethan compiled a remarkable 61–3 record. He finished as the state runner-up as a junior and captured the state championship as a senior.

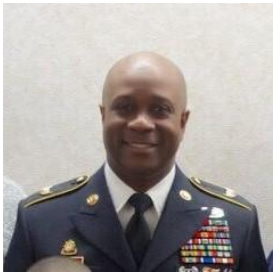
After high school, Ethan wrestled in the heavyweight division at Skyline College in San Mateo, California, where he went undefeated with a 34–0 record before a knee injury ended

his season. He later attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, but an ankle injury prevented him from competing, ultimately bringing his wrestling career to an end.

Ethan met the love of his life, Holly, while working in the family business near Gainesville in Williston, Florida. They have been married for 19 years and are proud parents of three children: Andrew , Robert , and Allison . The family now resides in Titusville, Florida.

Ethan's professional path has taken him through several industries—from shop manager at Foss Foam (the family business), to education, to health-care insurance, to aerospace.

He currently serves in production control at Blue Origin, where he procures parts and helps plan the build of the next lunar lander.



Long before he led troops into combat zones, **Brian Watts** was leading the charge down the track at Osceola High School. The oldest of four siblings, he learned early that leadership isn't just about being first — it's about setting the standard.

A natural athlete, Brian spent his high school years balancing football, wrestling, and track, but by senior year, he found his true calling in the lanes and long jump pit. "Track was where I felt most alive," he recalls. "It was just me, the runway, and the finish line."

As a sprinter, Brian blazed through the 100- and 200-meter dashes and anchored Osceola's relay teams with grit and determination. But it was the long jump that defined his legacy. After missing the state championship by just a quarter inch as a junior, Brian vowed to come back stronger — and he did. That spring, he soared 23 feet, 5½ inches, breaking both the Osceola High School and Pinellas County Athletic Conference records, the latter of which had stood for 21 years. His leap earned him a third-place finish at the state championship, an invitation to the prestigious Golden South Classic, and a spot on the All-Pinellas Boys Track Team in both the long jump and 4x100 relay.

After graduation, Brian traded his track spikes for combat boots, embarking on more than two decades of distinguished military service. He served four years in the Marine Corps before joining the U.S. Army, where he spent another 19 years — 12 with the legendary 101st Airborne Division. Through four combat tours — three in Iraq and one in Afghanistan — Brian led with courage, composure, and conviction, earning three Bronze Star Medals for heroic and meritorious achievement. He also earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Grantham University in 2009, proving that learning and growth never stop.

Now retired from active duty, Brian lives in Newport News, Virginia, with his fiancée, Marlene, who also serves in the Army. He enjoys staying active in the gym and spending time with his son, family, and friends.

From the track to the battlefield, Brian Watts has spent his life chasing excellence — always striving to go farther, lead stronger, and never stop improving. His story is one of resilience, heart, and the unwavering belief that no goal is ever out of reach.