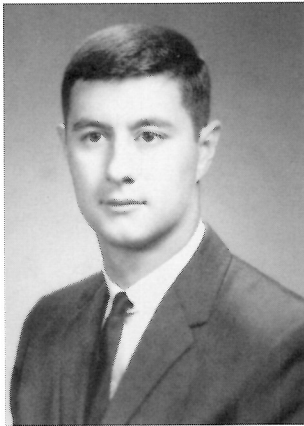


Michael J. Brita
Class of 1960



Michael J. Brita, a 1960 graduate of Milford High School, was a leader both on and off the playing fields. A three-sport athlete in football, basketball and baseball, Mike was also elected Class President each of his four high school years.

According to fellow Hall of Famer Charlie Espanet, who coached Mike in all three sports, "Mike was one of the most gifted and talented athletes with whom I have ever been associated. He was, and is, a true role model."

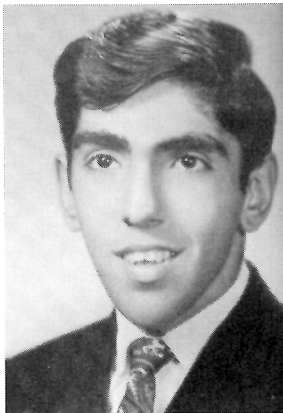
A co-captain of the football team, Mike was a two-year starter as a running back and safety. He established the Milford High School record for the longest interception runback for a touchdown (92 yards) in a game versus Hudson in 1959. A versatile guard/forward in basketball, Mike was a member of the 1959 Midland League Championship team, and also led the 1960 team to a 16-3 record, averaging 10.5 points per game.

The baseball diamond, however, was Mike's domain. A four-year varsity player as both an outfielder and a pitcher, he could do it all, hitting over .300 and compiling a record of 9-3 on the mound. The team won the Midland League Championship in 1957, 1959, and 1960 and the State Class B Championship in 1960. He was also a key member of the 1958 American Legion team that finished as State Runner-up, and the 1959 State and Northeast Regional Champions, fashioning an 11-1 record as a pitcher.

After graduation, Mike was awarded a four-year baseball scholarship to the University of Massachusetts. His ability earned him various major league try-outs, and he was offered a professional contract in 1962 by the Washington Senators.

He opted to remain at UMass, and returned to Milford as teacher-coach. As Varsity Baseball Coach in 1970-71, he led the teams to a record of 33-8 and two consecutive Midland League Championships. Mike spent his last 25 years as Principal of Stacy Middle School, retiring in 2001.

Thomas J. Derderian
Class of 1967



Cross Country and Track & Field were certainly not the most visible or successful athletic programs at Milford High School in the 1960's, but that was not because of the lack of quality individuals such as Thomas J. Derderian. Despite the lack of publicity, Tom made a name for himself in a big way.

A dedicated and fierce competitor, Tom could always be found at or near the front of the pack in his specialty- long distance running. As a senior at MHS, he was undefeated in the mile run and owned the school record for that event. He was also the Central Mass Conference champion. Upon graduation, Tom enrolled at the University of Massachusetts, where he earned letters in Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track.

As his ambition in high school, Tom listed "26 miles, 385 yards", and he certainly reached his goal. He has run the Boston Marathon fourteen times, finishing a personal best 18th place with a time of 2:19:04 in 1975. He qualified and ran in the Olympic Trials in both 1972 and 1976. He has won New England Championships at 6 Mile, 10,000 Meters, 20,000 Meters, 30,000 Meters and in the Marathon.

Tom later coached the cross country and track teams at Salem State College. Since 1994, he has coached the Greater Boston Track Club men to excellence in track, cross-country and distance running. His men's team won the 1995 USATF New England Cross Country Grand Prix, and his men's and women's teams won again in 1998. He also has coached the men's team to the USATF New England Men's Indoor Track Championships in 1998, 1999 and 2000.