## DONNA GREENE OLSON

1973-1984. lacrosse coach



After graduating from Springfield College in 1973 Magna Cum Laude, Olson arrived at Wayland High School that fall and quickly made an impact on the Warriors' athletic program.

While at Springfield, Olson played field hockey and helped start the women's lacrosse program. Her Wayland lacrosse teams won two Eastern Mass championships and went undefeated during those two championship seasons. She also coached three All-American players: Kim Pond, Pam Mudway and Shari Krasnoo. In field hockey, Olson's teams qualified for the state tournament 11 straight seasons and won three Dual County League

championships. Her 1976 team went undefeated.

During her coaching career at Wayland, Olson's field hockey and lacrosse teams combined for a winning percentage of 72 percent. She also started the Wayland gymnastics team, a squad that qualified for the state tournament in its fourth year. While coaching in Wayland, Olson competed in the National Cycling Championship and ran four marathons, including two Boston Marathons. Her personal-best marathon was 3:06. She also won dozens of road races throughout New England. Following her coaching career at Wayland, Olson started the girls' varsity lacrosse program at King Philip. In its first year of existence, KP was 13-4-1, qualifying for the state tournament and making its coach Sun Chronicle Coach of the Year. Olson coached youth soccer and basketball for eight years.

She is an 18-year survivor of non-Hodgkins Lymphoma and a long-time participant and supporter of the Pan Mass Challenge. Donna and her husband Bill have resided in Norfolk for 33 years and have been married for 40 years. They are the parents of daughter Jackie Olson Zubiate, who was an All-American rower at Bates College, and grandparents of Nicholas Zubiate.

"My husband Bill and I founded and are still operating our business, Marathon Tool and Industrial Supply," said Donna. Olson wanted to thank some people who helped her during her Wayland career. "I would like to thank Buzz Bowers for giving me the opportunity to teach and coach at Wayland High School," she said. "I would also credit Buzz Bowers and Rick Moyer for the support and mentoring they afforded me while at Wayland. Also, thanks to my long-time friend and assistant coach Deb Trainor. I am forever grateful to my father Jack and my mother Louise, a University of Rhode Island Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, for instilling in me a love of athletics, teaching and coaching."

