

## COACHES CATEGORY

### *Anders Sorensen*

Born and raised in Sodertalje, Sweden, Anders played hockey for his hometown club during his youth and junior seasons, eventually making his way to play for the organization's professional team. In his last season with the Sodertalje SK, the team won their league title. Anders continued playing pro hockey for four more seasons in France, Norway and in the US before hanging up his playing skates in 2000. It was in that very first season of 'retirement' that Anders got into coaching in Illinois with the Darien Huskies.



With a newfound opportunity to pivot his love of the game to a coaching role, Anders discovered a passion for player development. For the next 11 years, his time coaching youth hockey in Illinois reached boys and girls at all levels, with his boys teams winning U14 AA and U18 AAA USA Hockey National Championships. Anders served as a U18, U16 head coach and Director with the Chicago Chill AAA program for three seasons before joining the Chicago Mission in 2006. Through this part of his coaching journey, Anders has had the pleasure helping develop hundreds of young Illinois players move on to juniors, college, professional and the National Hockey League.

In 2011, Anders had an offer he could not refuse - an opportunity to coach professionally for his hometown team, the Sodertalje SK in Sweden's Hockeyallsvenskan league.

He would spend 3 seasons as an assistant coach in Sodertalje before moving back to the Chicagoland area.

In 2014, Anders returned to work with the Chicago Mission AAA program. Later that same year, he would accept a position with the Chicago Blackhawks as a Player Development Coach, often meeting some of his former youth players who had since signed professional contracts. Even with his new Blackhawks gig, Anders still made time over the next four seasons to continue coaching the Chicago Mission's youth players and win a few more National Championships at the U14 AAA and U16AAA level while his main focus remained on helping developing and advancing players up the ranks.

In 2019, Anders became a full-time Assistant Coach with the Rockford IceHogs, the American Hockey League affiliate of the Chicago Blackhawks. He was named Interim Head Coach in 2021 and officially signed on as Head Coach for the 2022-23 season.

Anders and his wife Theresa have four children, Anton (21), Annika (18), Emma (16) and Eloise (10).

Anders is truly honored to join the members of the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame and offers his gratitude for this nomination, and to past and current inductees, colleagues, players, friends and family.

## PLAYER CATEGORY

### *Bob Janecyk*

Bob was born in Chicago and raised in the suburbs of Midlothian and Oak Lawn. Bob started playing hockey at a young age and decided goalie was his position and stuck with it his whole career. His love for the Chicago Blackhawks and Tony Esposito ignited his dream to someday be a part of the team.



Bob grew up playing youth hockey with the Chicago Saints and a member of the Marist High School varsity hockey team. He then went on to play for Chicago State University where he was a three time All American. Bob spent endless hours at Southwest Ice Arena in Crestwood, Illinois. His hard work and determination on the ice, along with the help and support of Southwest Ice Arena owner, Frank DiCristina, paid off when Bob caught the attention of the Blackhawks during summer ice sessions. He was signed as a free agent in 1979.

Bob got his is pro career start with the IHL's Fort Wayne Komets, winning the Ken McKenzie trophy for best American born player in his rookie year. He then moved up to the Blackhawks AHL affiliate New Brunswick Hawks, winning the Calder Cup in the 1981-82 season. He was awarded the Harry (Hap) Holmes Memorial honor for lowest GAA in the league. The Blackhawks then moved their AHL affiliate to Springfield, MA, where he remained until getting called up to the Blackhawks fulfilling his childhood dream.

In 1984, Bob was traded to the LA Kings where he spent the majority of his NHL playing career. He played in 110 NHL games over his career and ended his playing tenure with the New Haven Nighthawks in the AHL. Although his time on the ice ended, his love for the game didn't end there, and has spent the next 25 years as an Amateur scout for the NHL's Ottawa Senators.

In his personal life, Bob has been married to his high school sweetheart, Jill, for 42 years. They have three sons, Bob, Ross, and Adam who grew up with the same love and passion for the game. They also have 2 recent grandchildren and currently reside in Michigan.

Bob is both humbled and honored to be part of the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame, and thankful for all the help and support from the many special people in his journey to play in the NHL.

**2023 ILLINOIS HOCKEY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**

## BUILDER CATEGORY



### *Cindy Fujii*

Cindy was born and raised on the North Side of Chicago. Hockey was not a thing for her as a youngster. She was a Bears and Cubs fan. Period. She didn't even know hockey existed in Chicago until she was in her 20s.

Cindy started playing roller hockey on a women's team at Rainbow Ice Rink in the early 1990s. While playing roller hockey, she saw an ad at McFetridge Ice Rink for a women's ice hockey team looking for players. She then started playing ice hockey for the Chicago Ice in the Women's Central Hockey League.

Cindy was playing at Johnny's Ice House when she met Craig Cunningham who was running a program known as Positive Upliftment for Chicago Kids, a program that promoted diversity in the game and received funding from the National Hockey League. Shortly thereafter, Cindy started running that program after Craig Cunningham resigned and the program became known as the AHAI Diversity Hockey Program. The Chicago Blackhawks led the NHL in recognizing the importance of trying to make hockey accessible for everyone and the Blackhawks funded this program 100%, a luxury that few other NHL city's diversity programs enjoyed.

Equipment drives became the lifeblood of the Diversity Hockey Program. The AHAI Diversity Hockey Program had the great fortune to have a devoted, behind-the-scenes wizard of equipment organization, procurement and fitting – Jeff Uyeno – who is now on the Equipment Staff of the Chicago Blackhawks. Initially the program was run out of Johnny's Ice House then moved to Bensenville when AHAI's offices were located there. Saturdays became an "all day event" for Cindy as she rotated two groups of inner city kids through on-ice and off-ice programs; however, Cindy invested countless hours during the week recruiting volunteer coaches, recruiting off-ice volunteers, arranging transportation for participants living in the city, preparing lunches and activities, and coordinating all aspects of the Diversity Hockey program.

Once Diversity Hockey fell under AHAI's auspices, Cindy met Mike Lebarre, President of AHAI at the time, and Mike convinced Cindy to head up the newly formed Diversity Committee of AHAI, become involved in Special Hockey with Amy Lapoe, and join the AHAI Board of Directors.

In USA Hockey's Coaching Education Program, Cindy completed the Level 3 seminar. She coached Diversity Hockey, Special Hockey, Hornets Sled Hockey, and men's sled hockey at the Winnetka Ice Rink which had eight players that went on to win the USA's first sled hockey gold medal at the Paralympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Cindy's selfless attitude rubbed off on her daughter, Michelle, who "volunteered" every Saturday to help with Diversity Hockey and attended countless games with her mom (poor, Michelle).

Cindy is "mostly retired" from hockey; she is currently employed by the Chicago Blackhawks as a locker room facilitator. Being inducted to the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame is an honor that Cindy never expected and she is especially grateful to Mike Lebarre, her daughter, and to all the volunteers with whom she has worked over the many years in service to hockey.

## OFFICIALS CATEGORY



### *Dave Zednik*

Dave was born in Evergreen Park and raised in Chicago's St Cajetan Parish. He was introduced to hockey by his brother Joe, who had tickets for the Blackhawk's last game of the 1969-70 season and took him to the game. The game played at the Stadium and was won by the Hawks 10-2 over the Canadians. A true love of hockey was born.

The following winter was a typical early and cold winter, luckily, Kennedy Park had an outdoor ice surface where Dave taught himself to skate. After many hours and falls, he was asked to participate in the Rat hockey games at the park. His first introduction to organized hockey was at Morgan Park High School. The team was just being formed that year as a club team. Dave tried out for the team and was selected, probably due to a number shortage. The games at Saints Spectrum, Willow Ice Chalet, Southwest Ice Arena and at the Park Forest Bubble only intensified his love for hockey. As a sixteen-year-old, Dave joined the senior league at the new Homewood Flossmoor ice rink where he played against the illustrious John Duran and his infamous kick shot to get more experience on the ice.

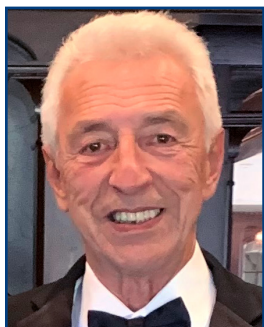
In August of 1976, the Chicago Southsider tried out for the University of Wisconsin, after the tryout the coaches correctly placed him on a club team and had him officiate at the Camp Randal rink where intramural games were played. However, real life struck, and Dave had to return to Chicago after only one semester.

As a way to be part of the sport he loved and to make money, Dave turned to the dark side of hockey...Officiating. The USA Hockey seminar and beginning games were not for the faint of heart with Joe Prescott taking your laces out of your skates for the skating portion of the seminar and working your first game with Dick Sharp at Southwest Ice Arena. This only intensified his love for the game. Subsequently, came the High School games with the likes of John Duran, Jim Misiora, and Tom Kurow and the air raid siren at the Loyola games at Glenview. Officiating has allowed Dave to be on the ice with future and present NCAA, Olympic and NHL players and coaches.

For many years, Dave has been a part of the leadership of IHOA, having been elected to the Board of Directors for fifteen years. Dave has been sent to Colorado Springs to The USA Hockey Instructor camp with Sjoukje Brown in 2007, where Dave LaBuda was one of the instructors. Dave has been teaching at least five seminars per year since 2007. Dave feels that every official needs the proper knowledge of the rules and techniques of officiating to be effective on the ice. Dave's committee work does not stop at IHOA, Dave has served on many of the AHAI committees such as Rules & Ethics, State Championship and the Assigning committees that are part of the backbone of Illinois hockey.

Dave resides in the South loop of Chicago with his loving wife of over thirty-seven years Terri. Dave's son, Keith resides in Springfield where he keeps the family tradition of being an off-ice official for the Springfield Jr Blues. The honor of the induction to the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame is beyond the wildest dreams of this Southsider as Dave was only doing what he loved to do: to be a part of the game he loves and to be surrounded by this great family we call AHAI.

## OFFICIALS CATEGORY



### *Gary Como*

Gary was born in Chicago and grew up in the West Humboldt Park neighborhood. He is a survivor of the Our Lady of the Angels school fire that claimed the lives of 92 classmates and 3 nuns.

He first saw a hockey game on television in the 1950's when CBS began televising games on Saturday afternoons. In early 1959, at the age of 10, Gary attended his first NHL game and upon seeing the rich colors of the blue lines and red center line against the white ice, combined with the uniform colors of the teams, Chicago vs. Detroit, his lifelong passion for the game was ignited.

He started skating at Michael Kirby's on Lake St in Oak Park in 1961. Skating was put on hold for a couple of years until 1963 when he and his parents moved to Skokie. That afforded him the opportunity to skate at an outdoor rink, Terminal Park, which had a full size rink with boards and nets. It is there that he started honing his hockey and skating skills. During this time he also started skating and playing at Rainbo Arena.

In 1967, upon meeting Ken Pierce and Jim Campbell at the Elmhurst YMCA ice rink, Gary started officiating. He started with house league games and over the next several years he quickly worked his way through the various age group levels.

In 1972, Gary started working in the United States Hockey League, and the Continental Hockey League. In 1973 he worked in the Midwest Junior Hockey League along with Kerry Fraser, longtime NHL Referee. The 1973-74 season saw Gary working games in the International Hockey League and the World Hockey Association.

Upon the birth of the IHOA, Gary was voted as one of the first Board of Directors. Duties of the board were to recruit and develop younger officials and help organize and coordinate seminars. During this time he also served as Referee in Chief of the Chicago Metropolitan High School Hockey League, North Division. Along with officiating, Gary volunteered his time with Stan Mikita's American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association.

In 1991 a dream came true as Gary was hired by the National Hockey League to fill a newly formed position of Video Replay Official. In 1994 he was tasked with hiring and training the off ice officials and be the Supervisor for the International Hockey League to work the Chicago Wolves games. In 1999-2000 he was hired as a Supervisor to work with the on ice officials, a position he also held with the United Hockey League. Gary is currently an off ice official with the American Hockey League.

Gary is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and retired from the United States Postal Service as a Postmaster. Married for 35 years to Jeannine they have 2 children Angela and Peter.

He is deeply honored and overwhelmed to be included in the group of distinguished and respected members of the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame. He would like to extend his gratitude to all who made it possible. Congratulations to tonight's fellow inductees as well as past inductees who have helped make hockey in Illinois the great game that we all love.

## COACHES CATEGORY



### *Jim Clare*

Jim Clare was born in Quincy Massachusetts in 1965, he spent his childhood living in Weymouth, MA. Jim played most of the sports you can name growing up but found his true passion to be the game of Ice Hockey. Jim was a four year varsity athlete for Weymouth North High School Hockey team from 1980 through 1983. Jim played the game every chance he could: spending hours at the rink after school, playing in Hockey Night in Boston games and on every pond he could find. After high school, Jim was recruited to play hockey for the United States Military Academy better known as West Point. He played hockey until his senior year having suffered a broken

femur during his fourth airborne jump. He refused to be away from the team and got his first taste of managing a team as the equipment manager. After graduating in 1987, Jim served as an officer in the United States Army up until 1994. Jim moved to Illinois to take his first civilian job. As soon as possible, enrolled his first two sons, Ryan and Kevin in Learn to Skate. Learn to Skate soon turned into organized hockey and Jim's youth hockey coaching career was born.

Jim became a fixture on the ice, coaching and assisting coaching all 3 of his sons' hockey teams. He passed his knowledge onto his children and their teammates every night at the rink. This journey turned from coaching the teams to serving on the Sabres Youth Hockey organization Board of Directors in addition to all his coaching responsibilities. In 2003 he became the president for the Sabres. Jim served as the President of the club for 13 years until 2016. Jim turned from a player, to a coach to ultimately coaching development and also the Rules and Ethics Committee otherwise known as 'keeping hockey parents in line'. During his tenure, Jim oversaw the coaching, development and hockey lives of tens of thousands of young players. He coached, where needed, taught where needed and saw the club through the transition from Seven Bridges to Rocket Ice Arena. Even with all of his responsibilities, Jim never missed one of his sons' games though. They might have had to carpool, or mom had to drive the kids but at some point. Jim would be there watching with his baseball hat, warm-up jacket and large Dunkin Donuts cup of coffee. One of the achievements Jim was most proud of was his development of the girls hockey program within the Sabres Organization. He lived to grow the game and took great pride in it. After his tenure as president he continued to coach teams where needed and focused mostly on coaching teams within the girls program. Jim coached all the way to the end, even when he was receiving chemo and coached the 22-23 Sabre's U19 Girls hockey team.

Jim Clare served the Illinois youth hockey community in many capacities but most recently as a volunteer member of AHAI serving as a director and as the Vice President of Coaching and Mentor Development. Jim Clare was awarded Volunteer of the Year 2023 for AHAI.

Jim Clare not only was a coaching fixture in Illinois, but also at the national level. Over the past few years, Jim ran over a 100 coaching clinics, mentoring and certifying new youth hockey coaches. Jim did a lot of his volunteering in Illinois but also for USA Hockey. Jim was serving as the ADM coordinator for Illinois, USA Hockey Associate Coach in Chief and as USA Hockey Coach in Chief for Illinois. Jim used his knowledge and experience to influence the hockey world at the local, state, and national level. Jim Clare's contributions to the game of hockey will be felt for decades to come.

Unfortunately Jim Clare lost his six year battle with cancer in September of 2023 surrounded by his family, watching a rerun of the Bruins winning the Stanley Cup in 2011. Jim is survived by his wife of 36 years, Cheryl, mother Lillian, his three sons Ryan and his wife Denise, Kevin, Kyle, his granddaughter Marina.

## BUILDER CATEGORY

### *John Janda*

John Janda was born in Chicago and raised in the Back of the Yards neighborhood. He attended St. Augustine grammar school, St. Joseph's Franciscan Seminary and De Paul University. John is currently retired but has worked in logistics for 37 years for such companies as Beatrice Foods, Sara Lee Corporation, Helene Curtis / Unilever and Temple Inland. John retired from International Paper in 2022 where he held the position of Complex Manager of Safety, Health & Environment for 11 years.



John met his future wife, Margie on a blind date in 1977. They were married in 1982. They have 3 children, Jonathan, Melissa and Brandon. When John retired in 2022 they had no grandchildren. During the past 17 months they have been blessed with 4 grandchildren, Jack, Pierson, Madelynn and Luca.

John started with the Chicago Hawks in 1993 when his eldest son Jonathan brought home a flyer for Learn to Skate session at Saints Spectrum in Bridgeview. Jonathan played his entire youth hockey career LTS thru Midget with the Hawks. Brandon soon followed in his brother's skate strides a few years later. When they turned 13 they both also joined IHOA and began refereeing games and can still be seen doing games today.

In 1995 Bill Holke happened to be visiting a neighbor two doors down and happened to spot John working in his yard. Bill introduced himself and asked John if he would like to get involved with the Hawks as Secretary on the Board. Just a couple of hours a month he said. John is now starting his 31st year with the Hawks and still involved. He said he wouldn't trade it for the world.

John has served many positions with the Hawks board for the past 29 years. John made the initial inquiring of moving the Hawks from the Bridgeview Ice Arena to the Darien Sportsplex in January 2006.

Besides the Hawks John has done volunteer work for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Special Olympics.

Since retiring John spends time with his grandchildren and looking at the size 7 youth size skates that he hopes his grandchildren will soon be wearing.

John couldn't have done it without the support of his wife, Margie and their children. This was a total family commitment. He is thankful for the many friendships he has made in the past 31 years with families, players and the people he has served with.

## BUILDER CATEGORY

### *Lisa McCormick*



Lisa grew up in Detroit, Michigan. Her mom and dad would flood their little backyard during the winter so she and her brothers and sister could skate between the clothesline posts (which really forced them to their heads up). When her mom signed her older brother up to play organized hockey through Detroit Parks and Recreation, Lisa piped up and asked to be signed up too. Her parents didn't say "no". The Parks and Rec staff were momentarily stumped because there were no other girls in the program, but to their credit, they didn't say "no" either, so Lisa began playing hockey at Detroit's O'Shea Rec Center on an outdoor rink.

Within a few years, Lisa found a girls' hockey program in Dearborn, Michigan and shifted over to playing competitive girls' hockey. Winning a State Championship, travelling to Canada for the biggest girls' hockey tournament at the time (the Brampton Canadettes' Easter Tournament) and earning berths at Nationals provided the foundation for Lisa's lifelong love of the sport.

After graduating from law school, Lisa accepted a job at a law firm in Chicago and started looking for women's hockey team to join. She met Erin (Moran) Malinowski who had started the women's club hockey team at University of Illinois, graduated, moved back to the Chicago suburbs and started the Chicago Rebels, one of the first independent women's hockey teams in the area, and was on the ground floor of organizing the Women's Central Hockey League with Fritz Soutsos. Erin and Dara (Thompson) DiBenedeto were involved with AHAI's Girls' and Women's Committee and introduced Lisa to the hockey world behind the "Emerald Curtain" – AHAI administration and committee service.

Lisa began serving on AHAI's Women's and Girls' Committee. She later Co-Chaired the Girls' Committee with Dennis O'Malley and Co-Chaired the Woman's Committee with Dara DiBenedeto. She was involved with the initial Girls' Player Development Committee and worked with Dennis O'Malley to put together the first player development camps for Illinois girls. Lisa organized the first "Opportunities in Hockey" Seminar specifically for girls, assembling representatives from prep schools, Division I college teams, Division III college teams, college club teams and USA Hockey to talk about the various opportunities and challenges facing girls who wish to pursue the possibility of playing hockey at the highest levels.

Lisa was a member of the Chicago Showcase Committee when the Chicago Showcase expanded to include a girls division. Lisa was the General Manager for the Illinois Girls' High School Showcase Team from its inception in 2002 through 2007 and was fortunate to recruit top caliber coaches (including IHHF inductees Myles Gottainer and Carisa Zaban Wahlig) to lead the Illinois teams.

Lisa was appointed to the AHAI Board of Directors in November of 2001 and was elected by a vote of the membership in 2003 and 2006. From the time of her initial involvement with the Women's and Girls' Committee through 2007, when she resigned from the Board to pursue a career opportunity back in Michigan, the number of girls' and women's teams in Illinois more than tripled and the number of registered female players nearly doubled. Lisa was primarily responsible for creating the structure of the G.R.O.W. Girls' Hockey Grant Program which began in September of 2002 and ran through the 2005-06 season. The G.R.O.W. Girls' Hockey Grant Program financially supported AHAI Affiliates that sought to promote girls' hockey at a grass roots level by attracting new female players to the game. Nearly 40 G.R.O.W. Grants were approved and funded during the program's existence and those Affiliates that took advantage of the Grants reported tremendous success – often exceeding their expectations.

In USA Hockey's Coaching Education Program, Lisa completed the Level 4 (Advanced) seminar. She coached girls 10Us at Johnny's Ice House and coached the Glenbrook High School Combined girls team with Myles Gottainer.

Lisa apparently didn't have enough to do before her daughter, Annika, was born, so fellow IHHF inductee, Cindy Fujii, cajoled Lisa into volunteering with AHAI's Diversity Hockey Program (now known as Hockey Is For Everyone) which, at the time, was run out of The Edge Ice Arenas in Bensenville on Saturday mornings. Annika spent her early years being hauled to The Edge and hanging out with mom, working with the off-ice portion of the program.

Lisa is truly honored to be inducted to the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame along with Cindy Fujii and is especially grateful to the AHAI committee members and AHAI Board member with whom she worked for so many years. Finally, Lisa wishes to acknowledge and thank her mom and dad who didn't say "no" when she wanted to start playing hockey.

**2023 ILLINOIS HOCKEY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**



## COACHES CATEGORY

### *Mike McPartlin*

Mike was born and raised in Chicago. He started skating when he was seven, learning to play hockey with his brothers and friends in backyard rinks.

Mike fell in love with the game watching his brothers Rick and Jerry play hockey for Mt. Carmel in the Chicago Catholic Hockey League. Mike played in his first-ever official hockey game with referees and a scoreboard as a freshman at Mt. Carmel. It helped he was on a line with Jerry, then a senior. He also had a brief stint with the Minor Hawks that year, but that got curtailed by the travel distances and late practices.

As a 14-year-old, Mike played in the summer men's league at the Glenwood Ice Arena. John Novak, a transplanted Canadian who played college hockey at North Dakota in the 1950's, took Mike and Jerry under his wing and became their hockey mentor over the next several years.

As a freshman at Notre Dame, Mike walked on to their program, playing JV for Coach Charlie Burroughs. As a sophomore, he opted to focus on his studies before returning to ND's hockey program as a senior.

Mike got his first taste of coaching during graduate school, assisting his brother Jerry, who taught and coached at Mt. Carmel and Marist.

After earning his JD from Loyola Law School, Mike took his first head coaching assignment at Fenwick HS. His first team made the CCHL finals and his second and third teams made the AHAI state semis and finals respectively. He also coached at Marist, where he won two Kennedy Cups and made one AHAI state final. Mike was CCHL Coach of the Year three times. He and his brothers sponsor the CCHL's "Lady Ginger" trophy (named for their mom and modeled after the "Lady Bing" trophy), which includes a scholarship stipend to one CCHL senior player each year.

While at Fenwick, Mike began to conduct skills clinics, eventually founding TAC Hockey, his skills development company. During this time frame Mike also assisted AHAI's Coaching Committee. He conducted the USA Hockey coaching clinics in Illinois for three years.

Mike also coached and served as corporate director and officer for the Chicago Mission Hockey Club for the first twelve years of its existence.

Over the course of 20+ years as a head coach, Mike coached more than 1300 youth and high school games, recording more than 900 wins. Many of his former players went on to play junior, college and professional hockey, including in the NHL.

In 2013, Mike founded Bridgedale Academy, a school for hockey players that offers a classical education combined with on-ice and off-ice training. Bridgedale is now in its eleventh year of operations and has left a positive impact on hundreds of Illinois hockey players. Nine of his graduates have gone on to be NHL drafted.

*"I am humbled to receive this prestigious award," said Mike. "I want to congratulate the other members of this year's Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame class, and extend my thanks to all the wonderful hockey people I've had the privilege to meet over the years. And finally, a sincere thanks to Jim Smith and all the other members of the IHOF."*



## PLAYER CATEGORY



### *Todd Channell*

Todd was born and raised in Naperville and began his hockey career at age 7 playing outdoors for the local park district program. The following year he played in a Rolling Meadows house league for the Naperville Suns. His then coach Roger Stone recognized his skills at a young age and recommended he tryout for the highly coveted Chicago Minor Hawks travel program based out of Lake Forest College. He was the last one chosen for the Squirt team and went on to win the Pee-Wee national championship tournament in Philadelphia, PA. As a high school Junior and Senior, he double-registered playing for the Naperville North team along with the Huskies travel program. He was both an Illinois all-state hockey player and an all-conference baseball player at Naperville North.

After graduation Todd played a post grad year at Culver Academy in Culver, IN. He still holds the all-time single season leading scorer record there with 78 goals and 52 assists. Several D1 colleges showed interest but none offered a scholarship. Eventually he chose D1 Miami University playing in the CCHA making the team as a preferred walk-on and receiving a scholarship after his first semester. Awarded Rookie of the Year honors as a Freshman and team MVP his Senior season, Todd concluded his college career as Miami's fifth all-time leading scorer and broke the then career goals played record for the University.

Senior year Todd was encouraged by his coaches to pursue an NHL player agent and was recruited by several teams. After graduation in 1986 he signed as a free agent with the Hartford Whalers becoming the first player from Naperville to ever have signed an NHL contract. Throughout his three-year pro career, he played in a handful of NHL pre-season games along with stops in the minor leagues for Hartford affiliates the AHL Binghamton Whalers and IHL Salt Lake City Golden Eagles. While in Salt Lake his team won the League Championship Turner Cup. That trophy has since been retired and currently resides in the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum in Toronto with Todd and the rest of the team's names etched in the side. During the winter of 1987 while in his pro career Todd was chosen to play for Team USA in a pre-Olympic preview tournament called the Calgary Cup against Team Canada, Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet Union.

Upon completion of his NHL professional contract Todd received an offer to play in Germany but ultimately decided to move back to his hometown of Naperville and begin his career in the family business where he has been ever since. He is CEO and owner of Sound Inc, a technology solutions provider serving the Chicagoland area.

After his hockey career ended Todd met his wife Kim in 1992 and recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. They have four adult children, Haley, Cole, Grace and Turner. He attributes and claims to owe most everything he currently has in life to Illinois hockey, noting he and Kim's first date was a result of them both being acquainted with the famous Illinois Granato hockey family from Downers Grove.