



Michael "Mike" Moretti

SPORT COLUMNIST/EDITOR

Born in Newark, St. Michael's Hospital, in 1951 Mike lived at 271 Lafayette Street and attended St. James Grammar School until moving to Bloomfield in 1961. From age 14 forward, Mike built a career in sports journalism, achieving the highest levels in his profession.

While a student at Seton Hall University, he worked for three years at the renowned Newark Evening News in the scholastic sports department, earning multiple bylines. He is one of the few surviving reporters of the Newark Evening News.

From there, he worked for the Passaic Herald-News, the Woodbridge News-Tribune, the New York Post, the National Sports Daily, and the Star-Ledger (1992-2012). In 1995, the NJSIAA named him New Jersey Sportswriter of the Year.

As a sports journalist, Mike covered the New York Knicks, New York Mets, and New Jersey Nets, as well as college basketball, professional golf, and numerous collegiate and scholastic sports. He was also an editor and columnist. His career took another forward trajectory when he was named Director of Communications for the New Jersey State Golf Association, where he took charge of both the NJSGA website and New Jersey Golf Magazine. His work earned multiple awards from the Garden State Journalists Association.

Additionally, Mike found time to serve as a part-time sports information director at Montclair State University, Bloomfield College, and New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark (1985-1998), where he earned numerous national awards for his team yearbooks.

Over his career, he interviewed Hall of Famers such as Joe Namath, Mickey Mantle, Joe DiMaggio, Joe Montana, Julius Erving, Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, Tom Seaver, Yogi Berra, Bill Bradley, Walt Frazier, Willis Reed, Larry Doby, Arnold Palmer and Yogi Berra, and many others.

He has also written two books with his lifelong friend Rich Ruffalo, the United States' most decorated blind athlete, who was also the Disney/McDonald's National Teacher of the Year in 1995.



Inducted October, 2024

Turn



**Mike, we are all so proud of you and your
Newark Athletic Hall of Fame Honor!
You were always a star to us!**



**The Moretti Family, The Seton Hall Pirate Family,
Bloomfield Bengal Family and all of your Friends.**

God Bless You Always

Tom Fleming was a Big Basketball Fan

In the 1980s, Tom would often visit his friend Bill Rodgers in Boston. They would train together and attend Boston Celtics basketball games. Tom and Bill sat in the row right behind the Celtics bench as they knew some of the players. They would often go get something to eat after the game with some of the Celtics. Over time they became very friendly with Kevin McHale.



Thomas J. Fleming
Elected 1981

A "world class" athlete, Tom has had an extraordinary and distinguished track career.

A 1969 graduate of Bloomfield High School, he was the Group IV State Two Mile Champion. A 1973 graduate of William Paterson College, Tom was a four time N.C.A.A. All-America. He was also four times N.J. State College Cross County Champion and three times N.J. State College and University Champion.

The American record holder at 30 kilometers, he won the New York City Marathon in 1973 and 1975. He finished second in the prestigious Boston Marathon in 1973 and 1974 and finished in the top ten six times.

Tom turned professional in September of 1980 and recently was the winner of the "Jordache" Pro-Am Marathon in Los Angeles capturing the \$25,000. first prize. He has more sub 2:20:00 marathons than any other American — 20 in number. He was also a member of the U.S.A. National team in 1972 and 1973.

On September 13, 1975, he married the former Diane Barbato, He is President of Tom Fleming's Running Room, Inc. of Bloomfield.

