

Kent Wojciechoski



I started off this wonderful life journey by being blessed to have wonderful parents. I was raised in Moorpark, California in a home that was surrounded by love and giving back to the community, from my father being the Little League Coach, the league President and the parent that would pick up any child that needed a ride to and from practice. My mother was the team mom on every team or activity, that either myself or my sisters were involved in. This is where I learned the passion for giving back to the community, and sports being my direction in life. Growing up in Moorpark, the city was limited on the number of kids that could or wanted to participate in high school athletics. I played football, baseball and basketball, but at 6'11" in my junior year, I knew my sport was going to ultimately be basketball. As a freshman, I started on the Varsity team and never looked back. During my high school days, our team won the Tri-Valley League, and I was chosen to partici-

pate in the All-County team and was the MVP. During all of this, I knew it was not just me, it was about the team!

Being 6'11", I was recruited by over 100 Colleges and Universities, and I ultimately chose to attend Texas Tech University, in Lubbock, Texas. Being in college, and now playing at a level that I had never seen before was difficult. At that level, I was a small fish in a huge pond, but I quickly found how I could be an asset to the team as a role player. I was playing against players like Akeem Olajuwon and the "Phi Slama Jama", Sam Perkins, Joe Klein, Jon Koncak, and that little unknown player, Michael Jordan. During my time at Texas Tech, our team won the Southwest Conference; I played in 3 NCAA Tournaments and we were ranked in the top 20 several times.

After college, I played in the European league for a season, but I returned home to raise my two daughters, Anna and Jennifer, which was my priority in life! I'm married to the love of my life, Erin, and from the first day I saw her, I knew we would be together. Fast forward to 1990, I was working for a healthcare business, but I know I needed a long-term job with good pay and benefits, because that is what my parents drilled into our heads. I never thought I would go into a Law Enforcement career, but I'm so glad I did. It was a great job, and I worked with and for some amazing people and that gave me the opportunity to work with the Santa Barbara community. In 1999, I was asked by S.B. Police Chief Breza to find a youth program that Police Officers could get involved with the community. I founded the Santa Barbara Police Activities League and created football teams, basketball leagues, and a Teen Center that is located at 1235 Chapala Street. The most exciting part of this program is to see kids that had life struggles, not only succeed, but become amazing leaders in the Santa Barbara Community.

Again, I have been blessed!