

John Durham

LIFETIME SERVICE TO WRESTLING

Cashmere High School 1978-1996

Born in Spokane, Washington, John Durham graduated from West Valley High School in 1969, participating in the state tournament his senior year. He wrestled for Washington Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame member Charlie Miller (2008). He graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1978, prior to beginning his career as a teacher and coach. Durham spent his entire teaching and coaching career at Cashmere High School. He was an assistant wrestling coach for Cashmere from 1978 through 1986, and again from 2007 to 2009. John was the very successful head coach at Cashmere from 1986 through 1996. Durham served 12 years in the Washington Air National Guard.

As a head coach, Durham's teams won 10 league championships, 10 district championships, 6 regional championships, and two fourth place finishes at the State Championships, with 5 individual state champions. During his career his dual match record was 117-3 with 43 individual state placers in the top 6 at state, with a total of 14 individual state champions. John's teams won more than a dozen wrestling tournaments prior to post-season competition, at a time when teams only wrestled in one or two tournaments each year. Durham shared most of his years as a wrestling coach at Cashmere High School coaching with Washington State Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame member Bill Elliott (2010).

Since his coaching retirement in 1996, John has been co-tournament director for the Cashmere High School Wrestling Invitational Tournament and the computer matchmaker for the district and regional wrestling tournaments held at Cashmere High School.

In recognition of his coaching accomplishments, John was selected as the Assistant Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1985; The 1989 "A/B" Jim Adamson Coach of the Year. In 1994, he received the North Central Washington Rotary Male Team Coach of the Year. Then in 1996, he was selected by his peers as the State Wrestling Coach of the Year. In 1998, Durham was inducted into the Washington State Coaches Association Wrestling Hall of Fame.

John also served as a head cross country coach and assistant track & field coach at Cashmere High School and currently lives in Cashmere, Washington.

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