

# Mark Kurzawski

*Players' Category*



Mark Kurzawski was born February 25, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois. He was raised in Burbank, Illinois, and attended St. Laurence High School for his first three years. Mark currently lives in the South Suburbs of Chicago in Hickory Hills with his wife Lori, his son Erik and his two Labs, Jade and Ruby. He is Co-owner of Klass Electric Co., with as luck would have it, another “hockey player” Mr. Bill Glass.

Mark’s hockey career started at Oak Lawn, where as a four year old, he played in the State Playoffs. He spent time with the Spartans as a Mite and then the Saints for three years where he won two AA State Championships. Mark then moved up and played as a Bantam and Midget where he was part of two AA National Championships. As a sophomore in High School he was able to play for his cousin, Tom Kurzawski at St. Laurence before making the leap to AAA with the Young Americans for Tim Mueller. These coaches, along with Russ Cafano, Steve Janakas, Sr. and Mark’s father, enhanced his skills and instilled the “Team First” mentality that ultimately led him to play for the Windsor Spitfires in the OHL during his senior year in high school. He was selected 35th overall in the 1986 NHL Draft by the Chicago Blackhawks. Mark spent two more years with the Spitfires, where he played for the Memorial Cup, before spending two seasons in the Blackhawks Farm System.

After Training Camp with the Los Angeles Kings, and yet another knee surgery, he decided to give back to the hockey community that gave so much to him. He ran Hockey Schools at Southwest Ice Arena for beginners, from Pre-Mites to fathers, to teach them the “basics”. He spent 10 years with Tim Mueller and Team Illinois, during which time they won National Championships at the Pee Wee Level.

Mark is an example of what amateur athletics and the hockey community promotes, builds in you and how it effects your life from the time you start on a frozen pond to everyday adulthood.