

Don Shuler

Wrestling

Class of 1973

Don Shuler was an outstanding athlete at Santa Ana High School where he competed in football, and also became an accomplished wrestler, placing 2nd in the CIF Championships.

Shuler attended Santa Ana College where, his freshman year, he was the Eastern Conference Champion, the Southern California Champion, finished as the State Runner-up, and was a member of the California All-American Team. As a sophomore at SAC he was ranked the number one wrestler in California and went on to win his second-straight Eastern Conference Championship, his second-straight Southern California Championship, and claimed his first State Championship. Following his outstanding sophomore campaign, Shuler was selected to the California All-America Team for the second straight season. He was also selected by the California Coaches Association as the Outstanding California Wrestler. His record at Santa Ana College was 83-6.

Shuler then transferred to Arizona State University where he compiled a record of 62-9-1 and was a two-time Western Athletic Conference Champion. He qualified for the NCAA Championships twice and placed 4th in the NCAA Championship in 1978. In 1979 he won the National U.S. Wrestling Federation Championship.

After college, he competed on several international teams – highlighted by his second place finish at the Spartakade Games in Russia in 1979. Between 1980 and 1984 he competed in the National freestyle Championships, placing in the top 10 six times before he won the Championship in 1984. The championship qualified him for the Olympic team trials where he was selected the first alternate at 180.5 lbs. for the 1984 Olympic Team.

Shuler went on to coach the Athletes In Action team for the Campus Crusade for Christ. He later became head wrestling coach at Liberty University in Virginia where his dual meet record was 189-110-1. He also coached at Brookville High

School where he coached 8 state champions. Don was named the Virginia High School Coach of the Year in 2012.

inducted into California Chapter: National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2013

Inducted into Santa Ana College Hall of Fame in 2009