

Joseph Halin

Joseph Halin will be the first to tell you that running has been a major part of his life. He pinpoints the start of his running with the beginning of his career at Cherokee High School. Joe looks back fondly on his years at Cherokee as being instrumental in his future success. Beyond the friendships he made and the opportunities provided, he believes that Cherokee gave him the skill set to succeed. As a graduate of the Class of 2000, Joe had the privilege of being a standout runner and an integral part of several championship teams.

Joe was a varsity runner on three consecutive Group 4 State Championship teams in cross country. In 1997, Joe's sophomore year and his first season of cross country after playing soccer as a freshman, he was Cherokee's 4th man on the team that won the first cross country state championship in school history. The following year, Joe was 2nd for the team and 9th overall to help Cherokee to a 2nd consecutive Group 4 State Crown. He concluded his junior season as Cherokee's top man at the State Meet of Champions, finishing 11th against the top competitors in the state from all the groups. Joe was primed for a great senior year! Unfortunately, an injury curtailed the first month of his senior cross country season and left him playing catch-up. Undeterred, Joe got stronger as the season progressed, ending the year with an individual victory at the 1999 Group 4 State Championship while leading Cherokee to a 3rd straight team title. Joe was the first Cherokee cross country runner to win an individual state championship and, to this day, remains just one of 5 Cherokee athletes ever to do so. Also an excellent track athlete, Joe set the Cherokee indoor track school record in the 3200 meter run in the winter of 2000 and broke the outdoor 3200 record later that year.

Earning nine varsity letters in his time at Cherokee (3 each in cross country, winter track and spring track), Joe then decided to take his talents to the next level. Joe attended Appalachian State University where he was a member of both the Cross Country and Track & Field Teams. Joe enjoyed a fine college career in which he led the App State cross country team and set a school record of 14:19 for 5000 meters on the track. Joe graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion.

Post-collegiately, Joe continued to run with great success! As one of the top runners in the Philadelphia region, Joe competed in numerous local road races, finishing near the front in all of them and winning his share. Joe's passion for the sport led him to eventually move up to the ultimate endurance event and, in 2011, he ran 2 hours and 29 minutes at the Philadelphia Marathon in his first attempt at the distance. His love of the sport even filtered into his career choice. Joe managed the Moorestown Running Company from the day it opened until 9 years later when he decided to pursue a career in nursing.

Joe resides in Marlton with his wife, Geraldine, and his two sons, Dean and Miles. Joe is currently an RN at Virtua and has now changed his focus from running to his family.