

## JEFFERY "BRYNE" DIEL

**BRYNE WAS BORN DECEMBER 20, 1971, IN JASPER, ALABAMA, TO LARRY AND EMILY DIEHL.**

He has one older brother, Charles. Growing up in Oakman, he participated in all youth programs right up to high school, but he knew from a young age that baseball was his true love. He was selected to play on multiple All-Star baseball teams. He credits his teammates, coaches, uncles and cousins for his success.

At Oakman High School, Bryne was a multiple sport athlete. He was a four year letterman in both football and basketball and a five year letterman in baseball. The football team was Area Champs in 1987, 1988 and 1989 while Bryne was the quarterback. In 1989, the Wildcats were undefeated during the regular season and went to the second round of the State play-offs under the leadership of Coach Hosea Collins, Jimmy McGee, Sammy McGee, and Ray Davis.

Bryne was selected All-County two years, All-State punter in football and Academic All-State. In baseball, he played on two Area Championship teams and was selected as an All-Area player going to the second round of the State Play-offs his sophomore, junior and senior years. In basketball, they won the first Walker County Tournament at Oakman and was named the MVP of the tournament.

After high school, he received multiple scholarship offers in basketball, baseball and football, but because of his love of the University of Alabama, he chose to walk on with the Crimson Tide in 1991. He was a member of the 1992 SEC Championship team that won the Sugar Bowl and was recognized as the 1992 National Champions. The next year Bryne proved that he was one of the top five punters in the country and was placed on scholarship. During his career at Alabama, the Tide won four bowl championship games and three consecutive SEC West titles. Not only being a punter, he threw for a touchdown pass his sophomore year and was 2-2 passing for 117 yards and 1 touchdown, as well as running for 61 yards on fake punts. At Alabama, Bryne was selected on the 1992 All-Bowl team, 1993 2nd team All-SEC, and the AT&T Long Distance Award for his 55.5 yard average against Arkansas. Bryne credits much of his success to his coaches and former teammates, especially Coach Gene Stallings.

Bryne was drafted as punter by the New York Giants and is a lifetime member of the NFLPA. He is married to his high school sweetheart Kelly Barrentine and they have two sons Grayson and Rhett. They currently live in Jasper where Bryne is employed by a nationwide company, Graybar Electric.

