



Roger Mason Jr.

“Things work in mysterious ways. Lo and behold, we have injuries, and he had the opportunity to play. He’s one of those stories of a guy who wouldn’t give up.” said NBA veteran Antawn Jamison. Multi-talented and hardworking are just two adjectives that can be used to describe NBA veteran and NBPA Deputy Executive Director Roger Mason Jr. Born on September 10, 1980 to the late Roger Mason Sr., an eye surgeon, and Marsha Mason-Wonsley, a registered nurse. Mason Jr. is a man of many talents and a notable icon in the world of basketball. After his father’s passing at a tender age of 10, Mason Jr. made the difficult decision to put his childhood behind him and become a goal oriented role model to his three younger siblings. He began to focus on his education and used the sport he loves, basketball, as a catalyst to become the success he is today.

Mason Jr. grew up in the Washington D.C. area. He attended primary school at Grace Episcopal Day School. He first attended high school at Sidwell Friends School, where he was named MVP at the school as a freshman. He then transferred to Our Lady of Good Counsel High School for his sophomore, junior, and senior years. Mason Jr. led Good Counsel to their best basketball year ever, with 29 wins and a number 19 final ranking on the USA Today Super 25 list. At Good Counsel he scored a total of 1,426 points. He was named 1999 All-Metropolitan first team by The Washington Post, All-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC), and all-county by the Montgomery Journal newspaper. He was also named 1999 Powerade “Mr. Basketball”, awarded to the best player in the Washington, D.C. area.

Following his dominance of high school basketball, the 6-foot-5 shooting guard was coveted by many colleges. He was named to the All-Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) third team. To compliment his numerous accolades, Mason was named Academic All American during his three years at the University of Virginia. Mason studied architecture during his time at UVA. Soon after, Mason Jr. took his game to the NBA. He experienced a long basketball career that has included six teams in eleven NBA seasons, with stints overseas playing in Greece and Israel. Mason Jr. carved a reputation for hitting both clutch shots and providing locker-room experience, most notably when he averaged 11.8 points in the 2008-2009 seasons with the San Antonio Spurs and nailed multiple game-winners. He was able to gain valuable basketball knowledge and life lessons while under the tutelage of some of the great NBA coaches such as Greg Popovich, Eddie Jordan, and Monty Williams.

Following his career as a basketball player, Mason Jr. wanted to stay close to the game he loves. He wanted to utilize the knowledge and experiences he had gained throughout his time as a player, to better the player relations with the Association and fans. For an experienced basketball professional, Mason Jr. continues to better himself and live up to his high expectations of a role model. He lives every day with his heart on his sleeve, trying to make those around him better. Mason Jr. passes on his hardworking mentality to his young children and carries on his father’s memory.