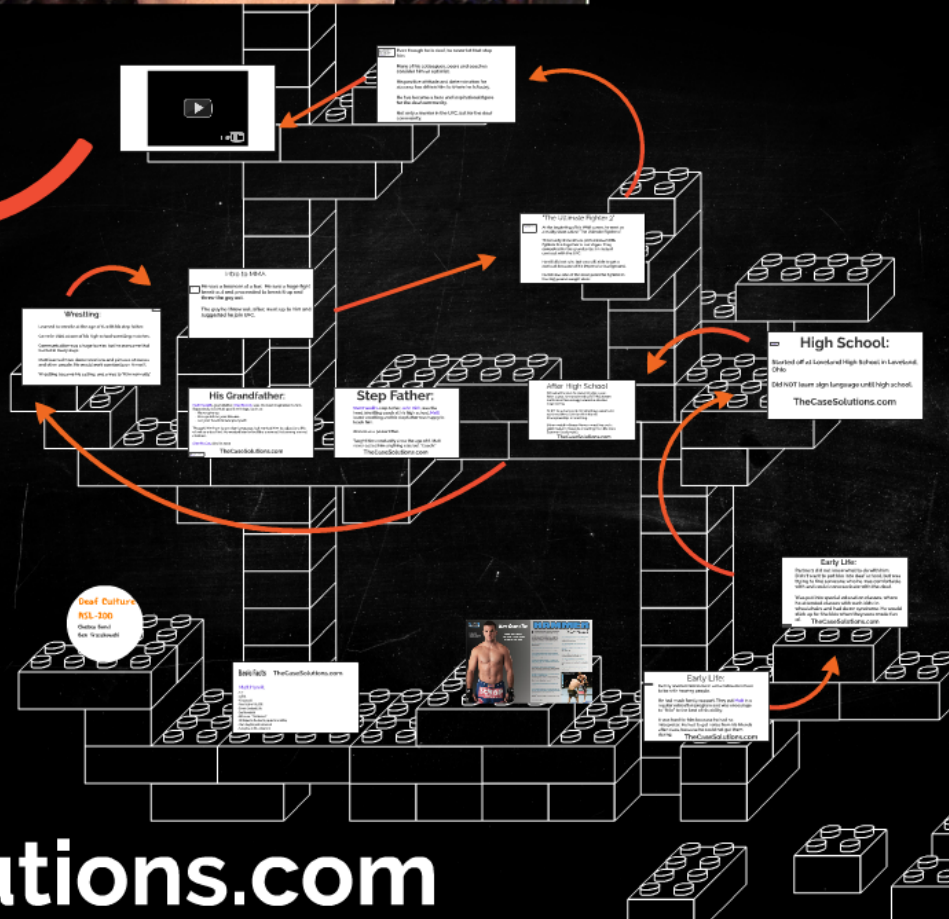


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Ultimate Fighting Championship: License to Operate (B)



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**Ultimate Fighting Championship: License to Operate (B)**

# Basic Facts    [TheCaseSolutions.com](http://TheCaseSolutions.com)

## Matt Hamill:

- 6' 1"
- 205 lb.
- 40 years old
- Born October 5th, 1976
- Born in Loveland, Ohio
- Deaf from birth
- Nick name - "The Hammer"
- Participant in the Deaf Olympics for wrestling
- Has 1 daughter, and is divorced
- Today lives in Utica, New York

# Early Life:

Family wanted him to be in a mainstream school to be with hearing people.

He had much family support. They put **Matt** in a regular education program and was encourage to "fit in" to the best of his ability.

It was hard for him because he had no interpreter. He had to get notes from his friends after class, because he could not get them during.

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# Early Life:

Partners did not know what to do with him. Didn't want to put him into deaf school, but was trying to find someone who he was comfortable with and could communicate with the deaf.

Was put into special education classes, where he attended classes with such kids: in wheelchairs and had down syndrome. He would stick up for the kids when they were made fun of.

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"I'm a fast learner."  
- Matt Hamill

# High School:

**Started off at Loveland High School in Loveland, Ohio**

**Did NOT learn sign language until high school.**

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# After High School

Attended Purdue for University for a year. After a year, he transferred to RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology) where he studied engineering.

At RIT he advanced in his wrestling career and achieved three Division III National Championships in wrestling.

Silver medal in Greco-Roman wrestling and a gold medal in freestyle wrestling from the 2001 Summer Deaflympics.

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# Step Father:

**Matt Hamill's** step father, **John Rich**, was the head wrestling coach at his high school. **Matt** loved wrestling and his stepfather was happy to teach him.

Known as a power lifter.

Taught him constantly since the age of 6. Matt never called him anything else but "Coach."

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# His Grandfather:

**Matt Hamill's** grandfather, **Stan McCoy**, was the best inspiration to him. Repeatedly told Matt positive things, such as:

- Never give up
- Always follow your dreams
- Let your heart dictate your path

Thought him how to use sign language, but wanted him to adjust to a life of not as a deaf kid. He wanted him to feel like a normal kid among normal children.

**Stan McCoy** died in 2002

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"Without my grandfather, I wouldn't be fighting."  
- Matt Hamill