

Terance Mathis – BIO

Mathis was born in Detroit and later moved to Georgia. Early in life he displayed athletic prowess and was a star quarterback at Redan High School in the 1980s. He attended College at the University of New Mexico, where he stood out as a wide receiver and, at 5-foot-10 and 157 pounds, became one of the more productive players in the country, catching 263 passes for 4,254 yards and 36 touchdowns in four seasons. Mathis also shined on special teams as a kick returner with 1,993 return yards and scored three touchdowns. Mathis was a college All-American in 1989, when he caught 88 passes for 1,315 yards and 13 touchdowns. He also became the first player to have more than 250 receptions, 4,000 receiving yards, and 6,000 yards total.

The Jets drafted Mathis in 1990, and was a vital member of the team as a wide receiver, and punt and kick returner. Mathis played with the Jets until 1994 when he joined the Falcons. In his first season, he caught 111 passes, becoming the eighth player in NFL history at the time to pass the 100-catch mark. His 1,342 receiving yards ranked second in franchise history at the time, earning him a Pro Bowl appearance that year. He played eight seasons for the Falcons, including the 1998 Super Bowl season, when he caught 64 passes for 1,136 yards at an incredible 17.8 yards per catch average. When Mathis finished playing for the Falcons, he caught 573 passes for 7,349 yards and 57 touchdowns and was the franchise leader in those categories.

Mathis was selected as the Atlanta Falcons' "Man of the Year" in 1998 for his accomplishments on and off the field. In 1996 he founded Terance Mathis Foundation which is now known as Terance Mathis Educational Institute. Mathis was inducted into the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame in 2013 and the University of New Mexico football ring of Honor. Mathis #15 jersey will be retired this season at the university.

After retiring from football, Mathis went on to do an internship with the Baltimore Ravens and worked as an assistant, coaching collegiate players in the East-West Shrine game in 2008 and 2016. In 2011-2012, Mathis served as the Offensive Coordinator for Savannah State University and after his stint with SSU, Mathis worked as Vice President of Marketing for part-time Sprint Cup Series team Leavine Family Racing in February 2013.

Mathis currently works with players from the NFL level down to youth football to assist with training and performance. Also, he served as a community coach at Lambert High school, in Suwanee, GA. Where he helped guide the school to a Region Championship. Mathis is also involved in raising awareness and needed financial support for ALS research.

Terance has been married to his beautiful wife Arnedia Mathis for 19 years and enjoys spending family time with his children, Terae and Terance Jr.