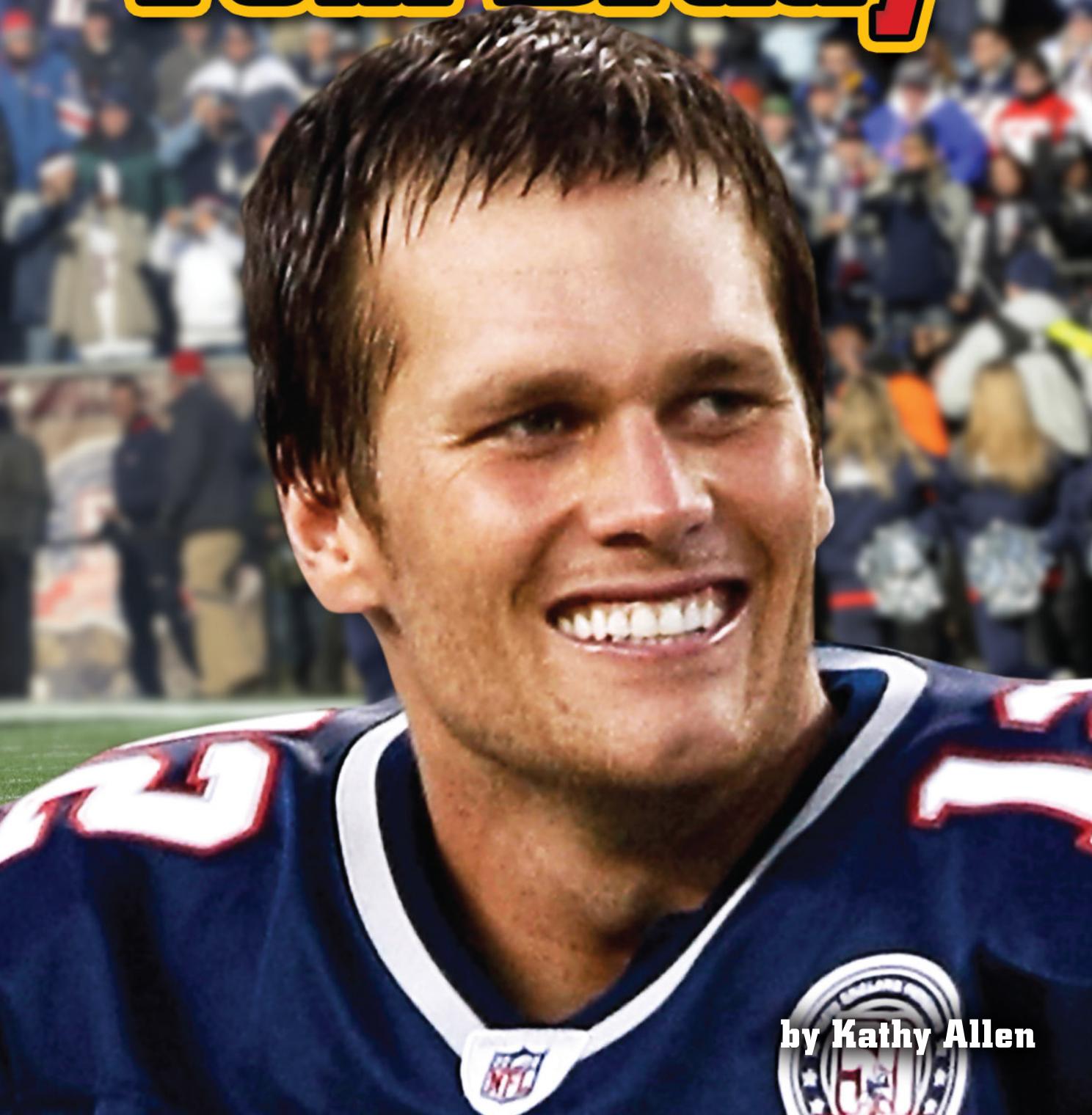


FOOTBALL STARS
UP CLOSE
★ ★ ★

Tom Brady



by Kathy Allen

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Tom Brady



by Kathy Allen

Consultant: Barry Wilner
AP Football Writer

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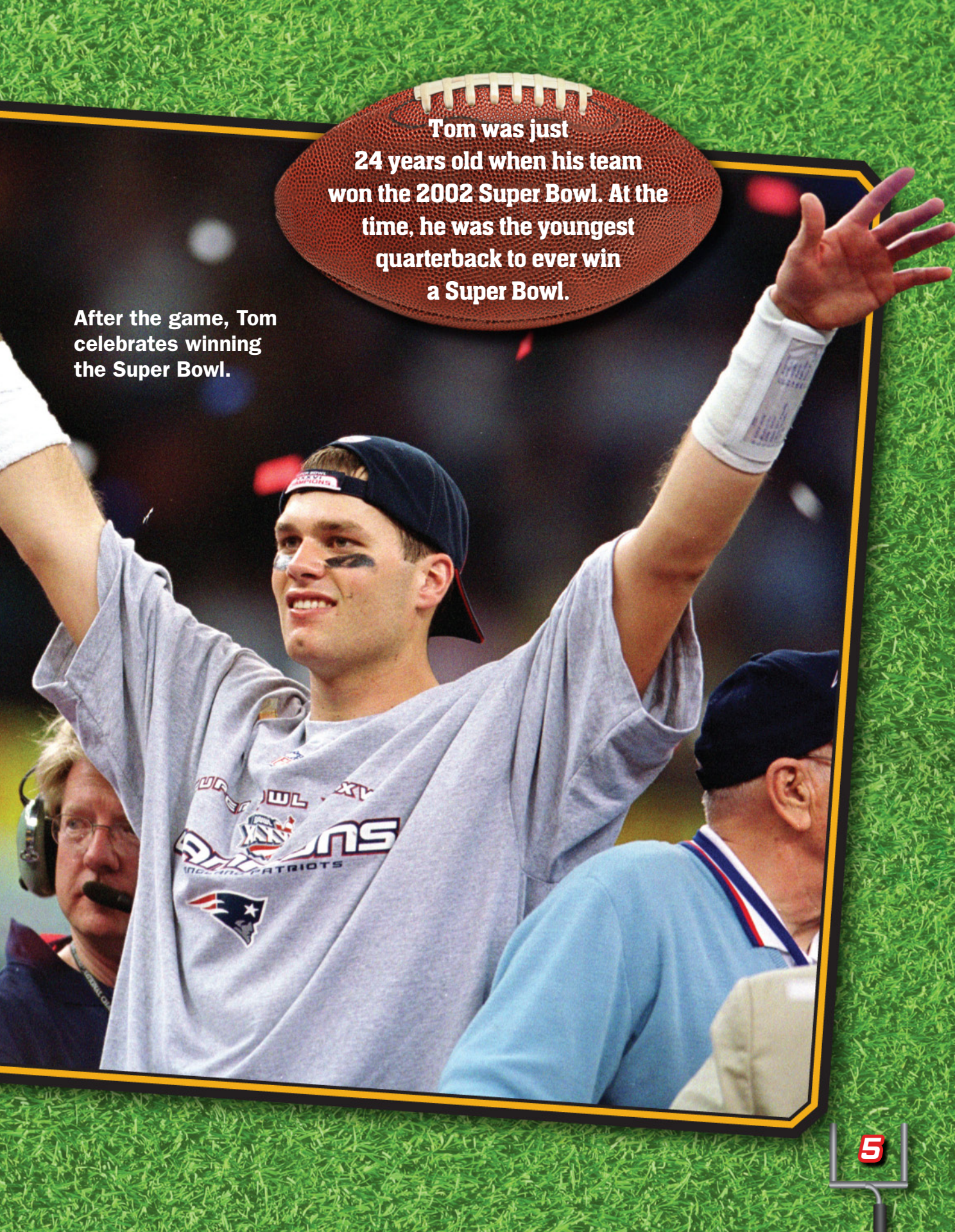


Super Start

Quarterback Tom Brady stood in the middle of the field. Confetti rained down all around him. His team, the New England Patriots, had just won the 2002 **Super Bowl**. As fans cheered from the stands, Tom raised his arms in the air and shook his head. He could not believe what he had just done.



Tom walks off the field after leading his team to a Super Bowl win.

A photograph of Tom Brady celebrating the Super Bowl win. He is wearing a grey New England Patriots t-shirt with "SUPER BOWL XLV" and "PATRIOTS" printed on it, a dark blue cap worn backward, and has black eye paint under his eyes. His arms are raised in the air. In the background, a man with a headset and another man in a light blue shirt are visible. The photo is set against a green grass background with a black and yellow border.

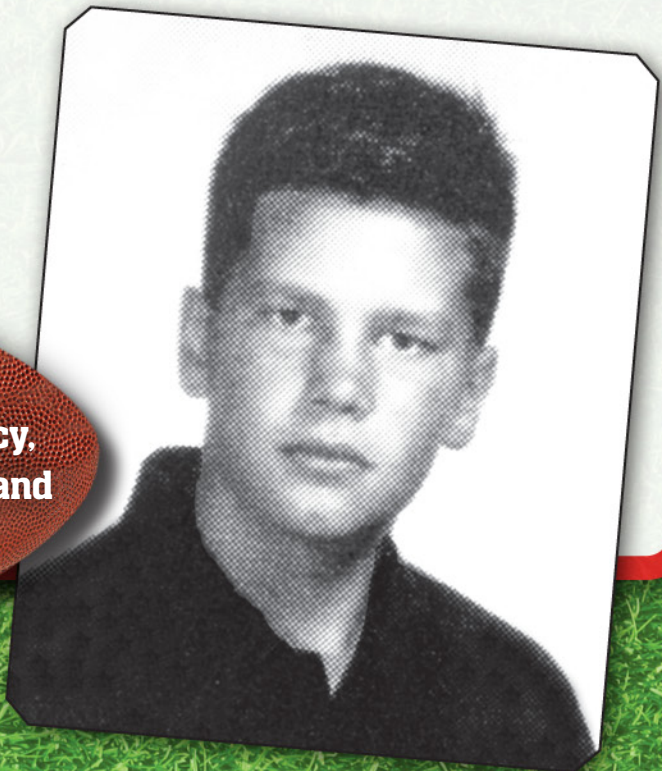
Tom was just 24 years old when his team won the 2002 Super Bowl. At the time, he was the youngest quarterback to ever win a Super Bowl.

After the game, Tom celebrates winning the Super Bowl.

The Little Brady

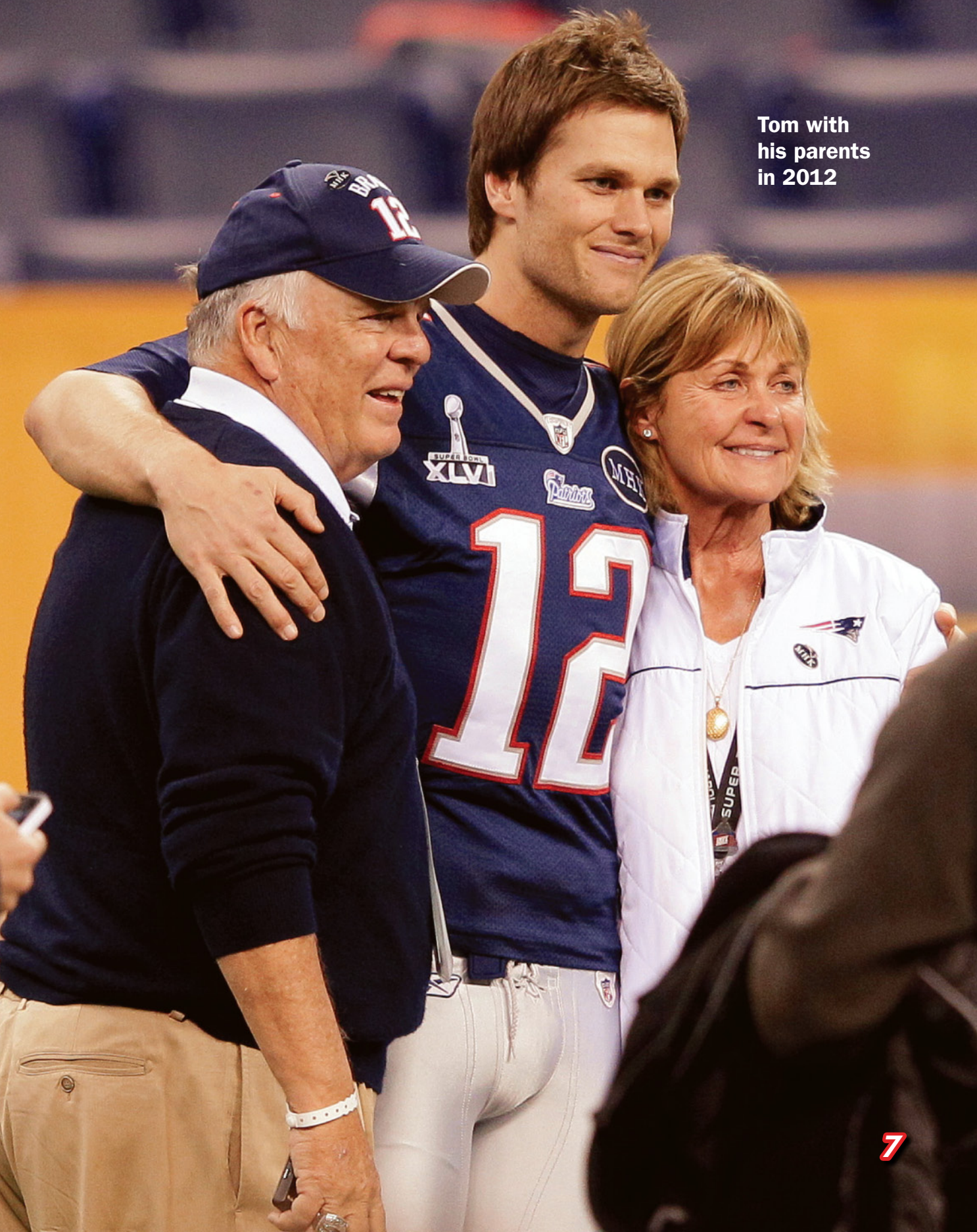
Tom was born in San Mateo, California, on August 3, 1977. When he was a boy, no one thought he would become a football star. He had three older sisters who were all great **athletes**. Tom was a good baseball player, but he was small and not very fast on his feet. Because of his size, Tom's parents worried he would get hurt if he played football.

Tom's ninth-grade
yearbook photo



Tom's sisters,
Maureen, Julie, and Nancy,
were outstanding soccer and
softball players.

Tom with
his parents
in 2012



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Learn More Online

To learn more about Tom Brady, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/FootballStarsUpClose



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Tom Brady

Tom Brady's football career got off to a rocky start. In college, the quarterback got only limited playing time. During the 2000 NFL draft, he wasn't chosen until the sixth round, but Tom refused to be discouraged. When the New England Patriots finally selected him to join their team, Tom knew he had a lot to prove. Could he lead his team to Super Bowl success and show the world that he was a shining star?

Look inside for a close-up look at the quarterback's inspiring journey from his childhood in California, through his college years at the University of Michigan, all the way to NFL stardom.

★ **Tom Brady**

Drew Brees

Adrian Peterson

Troy Polamalu

Aaron Rodgers

Tony Romo

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