

Chris Colavita

It is no surprise that Chris will join other Lawrence legends such as Glenn "Mooch" Myernick and Tim Murphy into the Hall of Fame. Chris was one of the best Mercer County soccer players to come out of the 1980's.

During his early days, playing in the Tom Hamnett League and West End Soccer Association, Chris was an incredible athlete. With his talent and passion for the game, he soon became a Lawrence High all-star, not to mention one of the top players in New Jersey.

At Lawrence High School, Chris was a three year starter for Coach Lou Angebranntd and, as a senior, he served as Captain and played with his best friend and fellow soccer great, Dave Pasquito. Senior year was a special one for Chris, he lead his team to a 19-1-2 record and won the 1980 Group II State Championship Title. In recognition of his leadership during that State Title year, Chris was selected to the All-County, All-Area and All-State First Teams.

Chris Colavita's soccer talents were on every college recruiter's radar. His decision was to play for The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill under National Soccer Hall of Fame Coach Anson Dorrance. His soccer skills flourished at North Carolina where he earned All ACC Honors and served as Team Captain his senior year.

Chris continued his soccer career after college playing on some of the greatest soccer teams in the State such as Trenton Panarama, Hibernians and the 1982 State Cup Winner Garden State Tire under Hall of Fame Coach Charlie Inverso.

His lists of accomplishments both on and off the soccer field are remarkable. Chris joined New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company in 1986. He rose through the ranks during his 26 year career at NJM. In 2008 he was elected to the Board of Directors and in 2009 was promoted to Senior Vice President.

In 2010, Chris was diagnosed with cancer. The next two years he fought a very courageous battle against this terrible disease. He tragically left us in March of 2012 at the age of 49.

He is remembered as an incredible soccer player but, more importantly, an extraordinary human being who had a tremendous love for his family and friends.