



DR. JOHN GUSZ

Dr. John Gusz brings an impressive resume for his years on the field as well as his service to our country. A standout at Ewing High, he enjoyed success in high school and in the college ranks. We are honored to induct Dr. John Gusz into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.

John is another product of the fabled West End Soccer program. As a 12 year old, John helped lead an all-star Ewing side to the first of two NIST tournament championships, defeating teams from St. Louis, Baltimore, and Canada, following this up with the second victory as a 15 year old. He continued his successes in school, first at Fisher Junior High, and then for the Blue Devils, where he also excelled in tennis. For Hall of Fame coach Andy Greener's booters, John led a strong Ewing team to three state tournaments, where, in his junior year, they were Group Three runners-up and shared the state title with Tenafly as a senior Co-Captain. He was an All-County player in both his junior and senior years and earned 2nd team All-State honors as one of the best players in Mercer County and New Jersey. John was honored for his outstanding career at Ewing when he was inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010.

John continued his soccer journey at the U.S. Military Academy under legendary coach Joe Palone as a four year varsity player for the Black Knights. Like some of the Hall's other alumni, John also showed his versatility as the kicker for the Army football team during the 1978 season. Leaving West Point, he returned to New Jersey where he took his medical training at Rutgers Medical School while continuing to play at a semi-professional level while attending medical school.

His professional journey saw him perform his residency in Hawaii, followed by a posting at Fort Knox, where he moved into coaching when he took the helm of his son's youth team. Advancing to the rank of Major, John was assigned to a MASH hospital during Operation Desert Storm, seeing action in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait. He officially separated from the Army in 1996 and relocated to Ohio. He continued to play at various levels, from soccer dads to former Division 1 and former professional players.

As a general surgeon and Trauma Center Director, John has been married for 33 years to Mindy and has two children, Nikki and Daniel. For his outstanding career and his service to our country, we are honored to induct Dr. John Gusz into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame.