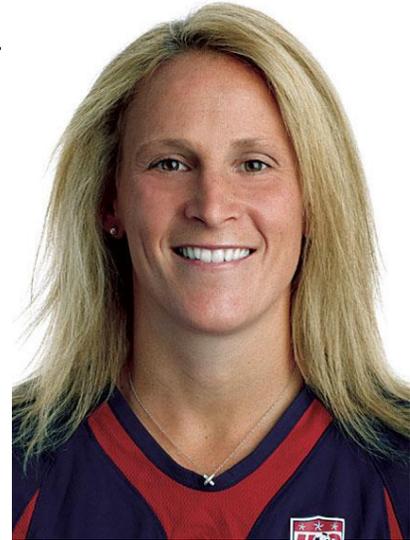


Kristine Lilly, 2008 US Youth Soccer Hall of Fame Inductee

Kristine Lilly is a standout in the soccer community and still gives tribute to her beginnings when she played in the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association, a proud member of US Youth Soccer. Lilly has received many honors throughout her career, one of which was in 2003 at the US Youth Soccer National Championships when US Youth Soccer honored Lilly by placing her name on the Under-15 Girls trophy.

Her role as a leader is undeniable, even since her youth days, as she led her high school to capture three state championships (1986-1989). In her collegiate career, at the University of North Carolina, the team was four-time NCAA Champions (1989-1992) and she was named Offensive MVP of the Championships in 1989 and 1990. Lilly also captained the team in 1990 and 1992.

Lilly was 16 when she made her first of 340 appearances with the U.S. Women's National Team in 1987. She captained the team from 2005 to 2007 and was runner up for the World Player of the Year in 2006. Her soccer resume boasts playing in five World Cups since 1991, counting two championships and in three Olympic Games since 1996, counting two gold medals.



Her hometown of Wilton, Connecticut, embraced and honored her success while playing for the US. July 14, 2007 was proclaimed Kristine Lilly Day in Connecticut. Wilton has named a street near her high school Kristine Lilly Way, the soccer field at Wilton High School has been renamed in her honor and when you enter the town, there is a sign that reads, "Welcome to Wilton, Hometown of Kristine Lilly, Olympic gold medalist."

Each year, Lilly runs the Kristine Lilly Soccer Academy in Wilton and Nantucket and hopes to have it expand throughout New England.

Her contributions to the game are never-ending as she also works with the Special Olympics of Connecticut to host an annual fund raiser dinner called the Lilly Awards, which recognize extraordinary women in the state.

Acting as positive role model for the youth, Lilly will continue to give back through her many accomplishments and as she continues to pave the way for women in soccer. Lilly finished her playing career as a member of the Boston Breakers.