

John Kerr, Jr

**All-American Player
Hermann Trophy Winner
University Coach**



John Kerr, Jr. is a retired soccer midfielder who played professionally in the United States, Canada, England, France and Northern Ireland during a much-traveled and varied playing career. In 1986, as a member of the Duke University team, John was named the Hermann Award winner as the top collegiate player of the year. During his four years with the Blue Devils he was a two-time first-team All-America. In 1986, the year that he won the Hermann Award, he was the captain of the Duke team which won the NCAA national championship, finishing his collegiate career with 42 goals and 43 assists for 127 points, totals that rank fifth, second and third, respectively, all-time at Duke. He also earned sixteen caps, scoring two goals, with the U.S. national team and is currently head coach of the Duke University men's soccer team.

Born in Toronto, Canada, John grew up in Falls Church, Virginia. The son of Scottish footballer John Kerr, Sr., John won the 1984 James P. McGuire Cup with Montgomery United and in 1986, while playing the collegiate off-season with his father's Fairfax Spartans, he won the National Amateur Cup.

While at Duke, Kerr began his international career after having become a naturalized U.S. citizen. He made his international debut in a scoreless draw versus Ecuador in 1984 in New York City and soon became a regular player on the team until 1988. From then until 1995, however, he failed to earn any more caps. As a result, he missed out on both the 1990 and 1994 World Cups. In 1995, he returned to the U.S. team and was included on the squad that reached the semi-finals at the 1995 Copa America. He finished his national team career with 16 appearances and 2 goals.

In 2007, John took over as coach of the men's team from John Rennie (NC Soccer Hall of Fame Class of 2011), guiding the Blue Devils to four NCAA Tournaments and to the round of 16 in 2009. The team collected eight NSCAA All-America awards and a Hermann Trophy winner during that period. John's fourth season was highlighted by the individual accolades of Mathew Wenger. The Lititz, Pa., native made history when he was voted as the ACC Offensive Player of the Year after collecting the ACC Defensive and ACC Rookie of the Year awards in the previous two seasons. Under John's tutelage, Wenger went on to win the MAC Hermann Award, Duke's first national player of the year honor since 2000 and the first under Kerr. With the award, Kerr became the first Hermann Award winner to go on to coach a Hermann Award recipient. Wenger capped off the year by being selected first in the Major League Soccer Super Draft, the first Blue Devil to be taken No. 1.

John's return to his alma mater followed nine seasons as the head coach at Harvard University. While with the Crimson, he compiled a ledger of 81-57-13 and earned trips to the NCAA Tournament in his last two campaigns.

Following graduation in 1986, John became the first American to play in the English Premier League when he signed on with Portsmouth. He returned to the United States later that year to play with the Washington Stars of the American Soccer League. Following his season stateside, John went back to Europe, playing in England, Ireland and France. He also spent one season with the Hamilton Steelers of the Canadian Soccer League. Kerr also played in the Major Soccer League, the United States' professional indoor soccer league of the time. He helped lead the San Diego Sockers to the 1992 title. In 1996-97, John played in Major League Soccer as a member of the Dallas Burn and New England Revolution. In 1998 and 1999, John was a player and coach for the Boston Bulldogs of the professional A-league.

John was inducted into the Duke Sports Hall of Fame in 2004. He has coached at the youth, high school, collegiate and professional levels in both England and the United States. In 1992, he was the top Blue Devil assistant of a squad that reached the national semifinals.

John is married to Tracy Kerr, who was a soccer standout at Virginia in the early 1990's. The couple has twins, Cameron John and Alexandra Catherine, and another son, Drew.