

# Gina Gribaudo Santone



Athlete: Basketball, Softball, Tennis

Shawnee High School Class of 1978

Coach: Girls Basketball (1990-1993, 2000-2007)



Awarded the distinguished '**Golden Pass**' as one of the **Most Distinguished Athletes of 1978**, Gina Gribaudo Santone succeeded as a multi-sport athlete in Tennis, Basketball and Softball, earning a total of ten varsity letters in those three sports throughout her high school career.

Exceeding in Tennis as a 1<sup>st</sup> Singles Player, Gina was not only named Captain, but ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Burlington County, 3<sup>rd</sup> in South Jersey, was 2-time Burlington County 1<sup>st</sup> Team, All South Jersey Team and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the South Jersey State Tournament. Gina played two years at the varsity level as Point Guard for the Shawnee Girls Basketball program.

Gina's Softball career saw her also named as Captain as she played the positions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Base and Short Stop, reaching status as a 3-time Burlington County Team with Honorable Mention. Gina's accolades did not end on the fields or in the courts. Academically upon graduation, Gina earned the distinguished **Al DiBartolomeo Scholarship**, given to one person in South Jersey based on courage, work ethic, leadership and perseverance.



Upon graduating from Shawnee, Gina attended Glassboro State College, graduating in 1982 with her BA Degree as Teacher of the Handicapped (Minor Psychology and Concentration in Spanish). She later attended The Richard Stockton College of NJ, earning her Master's Degree in Education in 2005. While at Glassboro, Gina continued her collegiate athletic career in the sport of Tennis, 1<sup>st</sup> Singles and 1<sup>st</sup> Doubles, earning varsity all four years. Gina was a 3-year participant in the NJIAW Collegiate Athletic for Women Tennis Tournament (Semi Finalist in Singles), 3-Year Eastern Regional Participant Finalist, and Team Captain. Due to an injury her senior year, she stopped playing but stepped in as assistant coach, placing her on a coaching journey which would find her returning to Shawnee!

In 1986, Gina joined the Special Education Department at Shawnee. She became Department Coordinator and Teacher of Special Education, spearheading and leading the Special Education Department as the first Special Education Teacher in the school. Joining the Shawnee Girls Basketball Coaching Staff in 1990, Gina attained a 75% winning average, was named the 1992 and 2002 **2-Time South Jersey "Coach of the Year"** (only Coach in SJ history to be voted twice), 2002 **Sportswriters "Coach of the Year"**, **2-Time Burlington County "Coach of the Year"**, selected and honored as **Al Carino "Living Legend Coach" for Outstanding Leadership and Coaching**, selected as All State Head Coach (South Coach), selected as Al Carino South Jersey All Star Head Coach, selected All-Conference Head Coach, Courier Post Cup Winner 28-2 Team Record, 2-Time Group IV Championships, 4 League Championships, 3 Burlington County Championships, 3 Burlington County Poll Champions, and hit an impressive 36-0 winning streak. Gina was the first Shawnee coach to hold an 'Alumni Basketball Game' with alumni coaches, players and cheerleaders. After her coaching retirement, Gina continued to serve the district as the LRHSD Channel 19 Color Commentator for Boys and Girls Basketball. Gina also serves as a West Chapter 5 Varsity Softball Umpire and is Coach for AAU, and All Star 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball teams in the district. Gina and her husband Marc live in Shamong and are parents to their son Gabriel.

**-Congratulations on your induction, Gina!**