



GER

# Manfred Kohl

## *Deceased*

Manfred passed away on September 9th, 2011 at the age of 50 after a long illness, bravely fought.

Manfred first started playing volleyball at age 14 in a local team. He started playing because he wanted to be on a team. He really wanted to play football but because of his orthosis they thought it was too dangerous.

Coach Athanasios Papageorgiou had the greatest influence on his development in standing volleyball. 'Papa' gave him the chance to play with the disabled team whilst encouraging integration with able bodied players.

As a player Manfred represented the highly successful German teams in the following events:

- 1985 European Championships 1st
- 1985 World Championships 1st
- 1986 World Championships 3rd
- 1987 European Championships 1st
- 1988 Paralympics 1st
- 1989 European Championships 1st
- 1990 World Championships 1st
- 1991 World Championships 2nd
- 1992 Paralympics 1st
- 1993 European Championships 1st
- 1994 World Championships 2nd
- 1995 European Championships 1st
- 1996 Paralympics 1st
- 1997 Pan-AM Open World Cup
- 1998 World Championship 2nd
- 1999 Pan-AM Open World Cup (participation tbc)
- 2000 Paralympics 1st



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#### Awards received:

At events Manfred received frequent awards, be it being selected for the All-Star team or as the MVP and most complete player; he was also awarded several times as the best receiver. In 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000 he was awarded with Germany's silver laurel leaf, the highest award a sportsman can achieve in Germany. Additionally, he received various national and local awards.

In the lead up to Sydney Olympics he played with Local team Sydney Cedars – 1999-2001.

In 2001, as a licensed volleyball coach, he acted as a coaching advisor and worked on the development of the Standing Volleyball programme of NPC Cambodia.

Manfred was highly respected by all and acted as an Athlete representative, first at national level as Chairman of the Athletes Committee of NPC Germany (1986-1994), then on the IPC Athletes Committee (1992-2000). As Chairman of the IPC Athletes Committee, he also served as a member of the IPC Executive Committee (1997-1998).

Additionally from 1900-2000 he worked with Athlete classification on the lead up to the Sydney Paralympics.

