

SPORTING LEGENDS: BILL KAZMAIER

SPORT: STRONGMAN

COMPETITIVE ERA: 1978 - 1989

Bill Kazmaier (born December 30, 1953 in Burlington, Wisconsin) is an American former powerlifter, strongman and professional wrestler. Kazmaier played football at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1973 to 1974 before leaving school to pursue powerlifting full-time.



In 1978, Kazmaier won the American powerlifting championship and the IPF world powerlifting championship. He won the IPF world championship again in 1983. In 1981, Kazmaier became the first person to bench 300kg.

The 1981 event was the same competition in which he totaled 1,100 kg (2,425 lb). Best lifts= Squat-925Lbs (done without a suit) 661Lbs bench press, and an 887Lbs. deadlift.

Kazmaier won the World's Strongest Man title three times, in 1980, 1981, and 1982. After these victories, Kazmaier chose not to compete in the 1983 WSM due to it being held outside the USA, but after this was not invited back to compete in the WSM contest again until 1988, when he finished second to Jón Páll Sigmarsson. He finished fourth in his final WSM appearance in 1989.

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Scott Burton's Final Thought

Bill Kazmaier's strength achievements speak volumes about his pure explosiveness ability:

Strength 4 Team Challenge - winner (1990)

World's Strongest Man - 4th place (1989)

World's Strongest Man - 2nd place (1988)

World Muscle Power Championships - winner (1988)

World Muscle Power Championships - 3rd place (1985)

World's Strongest Man - winner (1982)

World's Strongest Man - winner (1981)

Strongbow Strongman - winner (1980)

World's Strongest Man - winner (1980)

World's Strongest Man - 3rd place (1979)



Bill Kazmaier was one strong dude!