

MIKE ERICKSON

Date of birth - July 31, 1948.

Residence - 1735 Keyway Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52001.

Bowling ability was his category and one of the finest bowlers in the City of Dubuque.

The highlight of Mike's career was the 857 series he bowled in 1981. He had games of 300 - 258 - 299 at Fischer Lanes in Dubuque, leaving only three pins standing -- two 7 pins and one 6 pin -- on first balls. That effort was the third highest series ever by a left-hander in the United States at the time and still ranks as the highest score in Iowa. For his feat, he received the Ferd Lipovetz Memorial Award, presented annually to the member of the National 700 Clubs of America who bowls the highest sanctioned series during the year.

Mike had only one year of junior competition prior to starting his bowling career in 1969 after completing military service. Since then he has rolled three 300 games, four 299 games and as of March 8th has 297 series of 700 or better and four 800 totals.

Mike competes in most of the Greater Iowa bowling tournaments. He has won nine, more than anyone else, and is the top money winner.

In state tournaments, Mike won the all-events with a score of 2047 and was second in the doubles in 1987. He was a member of the winning team in 1983.

He also has bowled in several P.B.A. national and regional tournaments. His best effort nationally was 26th place, highlighted by a 299 game, in Milwaukee. In a Great Lakes regional meet, he finished seventh, averaging 230.

Mike's exploits in Dubuque are legendary. He has won several city titles, setting a scratch all-events record of 2094 in 1984. In the last 10 years, Mike has averaged better than 200 in 40 of 44 leagues in which he has bowled. His high average was 228 in the 1982-83 season. During the 1987-88 season, his averages in five leagues in three different establishments were 223, 221, 219, 215 and 213.

Those accomplishments led to his induction to the Dubuque Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 1984.

In addition to his ability, Mike also gives something back to the game. He has served for 12 years on the Dubuque Bowling Association's Board of Directors, including a stint as president in 1987. He is also a vice president on the Dubuque Junior Board, where he has served for eight years.

Mike has always been a fierce competitor on the lanes and bowling from the left side he proved he was one of the finest bowlers in Dubuque and the State of Iowa. Mike is best known for rarely missing the 1-2 pocket.

Inducted into the Iowa Bowling Hall of Fame in March 1989.

