Oliver E. "Ollie" Bently

Date of birth -

Residence - 3001 Twana Drive,Des Moines,Iowa 50310 (Deceased)

Meritorious Service was his catagory and was awarded Posthumously and gained fame as bowling promotor and proprietor.

Ollie was in the bowling business as a proprietor for over 30 years. He opened a 6 lane establishment on September 1,1938. Leagues were formed at that time and the following year they formed ladies leagues. In 1939 organized a league for junior bowlers. Ollie later in 1940 built more lanes to increase his establishment to 16 lanes.

Ollie was a great one for starting tournaments such as the Mixed Doubles in 1938 and he started the first All Star Tournament. This tournament grew so large that he turned it over to the Iowa State Proprietors Association. Ollie founded the Christmas Club Tournament for all bowlers excluding pros and All-Star winners.

Ollie organized the first Iowa State Junior Tournament in 1939.

Ollie helped organize the Iowa State Bowling Propietors Association on April 23,1946 and was its first President. He held the office President again in 1947 and 1954.In 1960 he was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the ISBPA and held that position until his death.

Ollie was instrumental in the reorganization of the National Bowling Proprietors Association and was a Director of that group since 1946. He was on the National Executive Committee in 1947-1948.

Ollie organized and held the first South Eastern Bowling Tournament for the Farm Bureau in 1957 and it has since become a state tournament.

Ollie helped organize the Iowa Bowling Council in 1961 and held the office of Secretary-Treasurer. He traveled over 20,000 miles each year promoting bowling.

He was active in the City of Muscatine and served as City Park Commissioner and the city is very proud of its Parks and the work Ollie did for its recreational facilities.

Inducted into the Iowa Bowling Hall of Fame Posthumously in March of 1972.

OLLIE BENTLEY

DES MOINES

INDUCTED 1972, POSTHUMOSLY