Merlin J. Tanner

Date of birth - November 19,1914

Residence - 2950 Shiras Ave.,Dubuque,Iowa 52001

Meritorous Service is his catagory and known as Mr. Bowler in Dubuque.

Merle started bowling in 1942 and by 1948 was Secretary-Treasurer of three 14 team leagues, a position he held for 15 years.

Elected to the Board of Directors of the Dubuque BA in 1946 and served as President during the 1948-49 season. Elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Dubuque BA in 1953 and held that position for 23 years till the 1976-77 season. Merle served the Dubuque BA a total of 31 years.

Merle was instrumental in starting the award program which is one of the finest in the country.

Merle started and was the tournament manager of the Oakland Dairy Holiday Tournament for 17 years.

Merle has bowled in more then 20 ABC Tournaments and has a high score of 675 in the singles and 1886 in the all-events.

As of 1975 he had competed in 32 Iowa State Tournaments and his team in 1956 finished in 2nd place just 3 pins out of first. Delegate to the Iowa State BA annual meeting some 30 times.

As of 1975 he had competed in 33 consecutive Dubuque City Tournaments winning the team title twice and the doubles title once.

Merle has three 700 series to his credit a 704-700-709. Highest game is 290 and had over a dozen 279 games.

Merle was instrumental in getting the Junior Bowling Program started in Dubuque and is a Certified Junior Bowling Coach.

Merle is also a member of the Dubuque 700 Club and the National 700 Bowling Clubs.

Merle was inducted into the Dubuque BA Hall of Fame in 1967.

On May 10,1977 Merle was honored by being named a Life Member of the Dubuque BA.

Inducted into the Iowa Bowling Hall of Fame in March 1978.