WALT MIRANDA: Des Moines
Born August 11, 1913 Died September 25, 1993

Walt started his bowling career while living in California. He carried the high average in quite a few of the leagues he bowled in and won his share of tournaments. He moved to Des Moines in 1954 and joined the best Classic League in town and carried the high average for the season. Walt led his team to the league championship on seven occasions. In the 1961-62 season his team won 27 games in a row in the Classic League and that team finished 7th in the ABC tournament in Detroit, the highest finish for any local team ever.

Walt was always encouraging young bowlers to get into the Classic Leagues. He brought many Hall of Famers into the fast lane of bowling in Des Moines. He has bowled with and against many top bowlers in the city and state. They will all tell you that when they went eye ball to eye ball against Walt, he wouldn't even *blink. They all knew that Walt had a great desire to win.* Buddy Bomar, the captain of the famous "Falstaff" team, came to Des Moines in 1958 to bowl an exhibition match at Air Lanes. Walt bowled against Buddy and beat him 642 to 633.

He bowled averages in the high 190's and bowled many 700 series with highs in the upper 700's. In 1955 he was second in State singles, in 1956 he was second in State all events, and in 1959 he was Iowa Match Game champion. His most rewarding achievement was in 1959, when at 5:00 in the morning, Walt rolled a 700 plus series to win the Independence Car Tourney.

Walt was noted for awarding the "Sour Apple Award" to bowlers who would leave the 5-7-10 split. This tradition has been continued by friends of Walt and there is an Annual Walt Miranda Memorial Sour Apple Tournament bowled each year. In memory of Walt, the Dawn League of which Walt was a long time member, changed its name to the Walt Miranda Dawn League.

He was elected to the Greater Des Moines Bowling Hall of Fame in 1988 and a Director of the local Association in 1989. In August of 1993 Walt was having surgery but wanted his son Jim to purchase his ABC card as he was sure he would be back on the lanes. On September 25, 1993 Walt passed away, leaving a void in the bowling world that is possibly never going to be replaced.

Inducted in 1998 in the Posthumous Category.

Walt