WILLIS "HUTCH" HARRISON: Marshalltown
Born

Hutch has always lived in Marshalltown. He married his wife, Fran, in February of 1956 and began bowling that fall. Hutch and Fran have 4 children and all of them participated in Junior Bowling with Dad as a coach.

Hutch bowled in his first state tournament in Waterloo in 1958. He was drafted into the Army in December of 1958, and returned to Marshalltown following his discharge in January of 1961 and began bowling again in three leagues each week. He has bowled in almost every state and city tournament since that time. He has also bowled in the State Senior tournament every year since becoming eligible. Salt Lake City was his 23rd ABC tournament and he was a delegate to the ABC Convention at St. Louis.

In May of 1962, both of Hutch's hands were smashed in an accident at work. For the next 5 months, with the help of a great physical therapist and a lot of squeezing of grippers, he was ready to try bowling again. In December he bowled his first 700 (711), his career high game 287, and his highest season average 192. In 1965 Hutch received the Marshalltown "Bowler of the Year" award.

From 1961 through the early 1980's Hutch coached Junior bowling in Marshalltown. In 1964 he helped start the Marshalltown Junior Bowling Association.

In 1964, along with Renus Lytle and Howard Vint, he organized the Iowa State Junior Bowling Association which later became the YABA. Hutch was elected Secretary of this Association and later served as President for 2 years.

In 1964 Hutch was elected Secretary of the Marshalltown Bowling Association and held that position until the end of the 1975 season. He was then elected as a board member of the Association and served as its President for the 1986-87 season. He was also awarded at this time, a Life Member of the Marshalltown Bowling Association.

Hutch has managed the VFW State tournament, the Elks State tournament, in addition to running several fund raising tournaments over the years.

In 1977 Hutch was elected to the Iowa State Bowling Association as Director and served as President during the 1984-85 season.

In 1985, along with Bob Jacobs and others, he formed the Iowa Bowling Council. This Council decided to sponsor an Iowa State Mixed Bowling tournament, with the proceeds going to the YABA Scholarship Fund, and yes, Hutch managed that 1st tournament and several more after that.

Hutch has 36 years of service to the game of bowling, not only in Marshalltown, but over the whole state of Iowa.

Inducted in 1997 in the Meritorious Service Category