Thomas P "Tom" Senatra
Born - Died - December 1993

It is not known when Tom started bowling but Tom is being inducted into the Iowa State Bowling Association Hall of Fame not because of when he bowled or how much he bowled, but because he was a very special man.

Tom was always a fine bowler, with a 185 to 195 average bowler back when it was a lot harder to hold an average. He also collected a large number of trophies, his first in winning the Midwest Secretaries Jamboree on October 17, 1954 in Cedar Rapids sponsored by the Springfield Bowling Association. After that he won 80 plus more trophies for high average, high series, high game, and league champions. Tom rolled 5 700 series between 1961 and 1975 and his high game was 289.

Tom Bowled in many state tournaments and in 5 ABC Championships tournaments.

Tom had bowled in 4 different associations in Iowa and was active in all four. From 1950 to 1960 he bowled in the Dewitt Bowling Association where he was owner and partner of the Dewitt Bowling Lanes for a time. From 1960 to 1971 he lived and bowled in the Clinton Bowling Association. Then from 1971 to 1985 he bowled in the Maquoketa District Bowling Association and the Bellevue Bowling Association.

While bowling in Maquoketa and Bellevue, Tom was the secretary-treasurer of both associations. Tom lived 25 miles from Maquoketa but he managed to keep the association running smoothly. A lot of Tom's work was done while he was recovering from very serious surgery. He was truely dedicated to the sport of bowling and the services he provided.

He did an outstanding job at Horizon Lanes in Bellevue by keeping their leagues organized, sanctioned, and going as he personally organized 5 men's leagues and 4 mixed leagues to bowl at the 8-lane center. Tom also arranged meetings to get the Bellevue junior bowlers sanctioned and to organize the Bellevue Junior Bowling Association. He was certified as Coach for Junior Bowlers.

In 1981, Tom was named an Honorary Member of the Maquoketa District Bowling Association. In 1982-1983, he was chosen as the Man of the Year by the Maquoketa association. In 1986, he was chosen Man of the Year by the Bellevue Bowling Association. In 1989, he was named an Honorary Member of the Bellevue association.

Tom was a member of Clinton's Chapter 2 of the 700 Bowling Clubs of America until he moved away, then he joined Dubuque's Chapter 5.

Because of his service, dedication, outstanding contributions, and love of the sport, it is my honor to induct Tom Senatra into the the Iowa State Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

Inducted in 1994 in the Special Category.