DON R. BARTLETT
IOWA STATE BOWLING ASSOCIATION
HALL OF FAME INDUCTION
MARCH 27, 2004

Don began bowling in 1971. The first ball he used was one he found at a rummage sale, it had three holes so he figured it would work. The first year he averaged 119. Elmer Bratten, proprietor of 700 Bowl, took him under his wings and got him a ball drilled just for him. That was the beginning of many a ball drilled just for him.

LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Don became an Ottumwa Bowling Association Director in 1976, working his way up to president in 1985. He is currently a life member.
He has been a state delegate from the Ottumwa Association since 1976.
Don has served as secretary of the Twilight League for 2 years and has been president for 25 years.
He has been team captain since 1971.
He is currently bowling in three leagues.
Don is now serving as the local YABA president.
He organized a level 1 Jr. Olympic Coaching School and 17 people were certified.
Don helped organize the local chapter of the 700 Club and is charter member.
Don was elected to the Ottumwa Association Hall of Fame in 1994.

STATE ACHIEVEMENTS

Don was elected to the Iowa State Board in 1994 and worked his way to president in the 2001-2002 season. During that time the rotation for the State Tournament was implemented. The Handicap Division in the Tournament was changed to two divisions. A new computer system was started and a Web site was created.

BOWLING

Don has bowled in the State Tournament with Guest Bros. Plumbing Team since 1976.He has bowled in 22 ABC Tournaments. He also bowls in the local city tournament, State Legion and Knights of Columbus Tournaments. He has won 1st place in Legion Doubles, 1st place in Legion Team twice, 1st place Ottumwa City Tournament team twice, 1st place Ottumwa City Tournament singles, 1st place Ottumwa City Tournament All Events and was a member of Team Ottumwa twice. His high game is 300, high series 758 and high average 194. Don is a Level 1 Certified Olympic Jr. Bowling Coach, Bronze Level Certified Bowling Coach and certified lane inspector.

OUTSIDE OF BOWLING

Don is a member of Saint Patrick's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and the American Legion. He coached Babe Ruth baseball, umpired Babe Ruth baseball and was the umpire in chief for four state tournaments. He was also the umpire in chief for the Senior Babe Ruth World Series.

FAMILY LIFE

Don has been married to Bonnie for 28 years. They have three children, Dawn, married to Chad Reed, Dennis and Gabe. They have 6 grandchildren, Keegan, Samantha, Mallory, Connor, Breanna and Tyler. Gabe works for Celucoat, a bowling supply company, in St. Louis and currently bowls in 3 leagues and carries a 222 average.

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