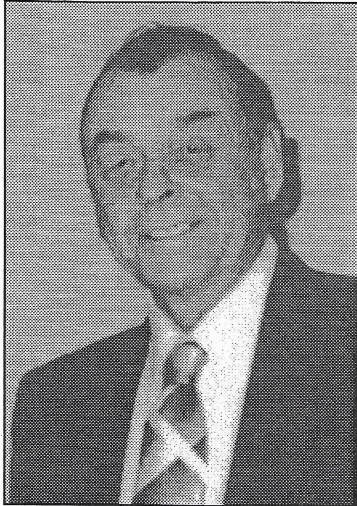


# NORVAL'S DREAM

by Virginia (Vicki) Renley

(Bud's wife)



In the late 1980's, at the age of 62, steamfitter, **Norval "Bud" Renley** opted for early retirement. His dream could no longer wait. His adult long hobby of pitching horseshoes, since turned passion fueled his desire to start turning into reality his dreams of building horseshoe courts in Beloit, Wisconsin that would someday host local, state and world tournaments. Bud, along with the other

founding members of the Beloit Horseshoe Club (BHC) had begun the ambitious task of making ready the horseshoe courts on the club's newly chosen site on Newark Road. Rising early every morning from the first day of his retirement Bud packed a cooler lunch and headed down to the site. There while he busied himself with clearing away brush he would walk the property envisioning the dream of what the finished courts would soon look like as well as their future growth. For many, many years now Bud had been designing, visualizing and planning in his mind what the finest courts he could envision would look like. And now he could finally mold the clay, so to speak, and build them. Previously, on his many travels throughout Wisconsin and Western states avidly pitching he would constantly observe and visit with fellow pitchers while gleaning ideas to someday put into fruition his own dream courts. So with a labor of love, he and the other members toiled for months as Bud directed, advised and supervised the time intensive project to its first stage of completion. But it was not meant to be that Bud's dream would remain his own. For someone greater decided that it was meant for others to share in its credit. When Bud was given word of a grave and imminent diagnosis he knew that he needed to pass the torch onto those who would carry it forward into the future. He summoned and gathered around him his long time fellow members and friends while feverously and passionately emptying his mind of all his designs and plans of not only how he envisioned the courts to look but of his dreams on how the BHC should carry forth. He closed with a paternal protective warning to them "not to screw it up" as he put it in their hands. Needless to say, they didn't mess it up! For the founding and existing members of Beloit Horseshoe Club pay a great tribute to Norval with all its subsequent and fine accomplishments in making the Renley Courts worthy of all its accolades.



## **Norval "Bud" Renley Hall of Fame 2010 Inductee**

Bud Renley passed away May 1, 1991. He has two sons; Randy and Dennis. It was Bud's dream for the Beloit Horseshoe Club to have its own land to locate club facilities thus eliminating the dependence on city parks or private parties. Bud was the first president of the Beloit Club and held that office until his death. He was an avid horseshoe pitcher and hard worker who inspired others to carry on the work he began. The Beloit courts have been named the "Bud Renley" courts because of his dedication, leadership and passion for horseshoe pitching. Bud's dream was to insure horseshoe pitching thrived in Beloit and the Wisconsin/Illinois area for years to come.

Earl Paulson nominated Bud in 2002. Kevin Brekke and Bud's sons also contributed information in Bud's Hall of Fame write-up

Congratulations posthumously to Norval "Bud" Renley as a deserving Hall of Fame member.