



1999 WHPA Hall of Fame

Norm Mauthe

Norm was born in 1933 and was married in 1971 to Joyce (deceased 1994). They have two sons, Jeff and Mark.

He was a factory worker in Dubuque, Iowa for over forty years at both Farley & Loetscher Manufacturing Co. and John Deere tractor Works. He retired in 1992 and remains a member of the UAW local 94.

Norm and his family have always been active in the sport of horseshoe pitching. He started pitching at a neighbor's court at age twelve, fifty-four years ago. His first organized pitching was in the 1960's at the Bennett family courts in Leadmine, WI. His brother, Len, encouraged him to enter the open tournaments being pitched in Wisconsin. His first one was the 1978 State Tournament in Berlin. He finished second in Class O with a 35.60% average. Norm was "hooked" on the round robin tournaments.

The Platteville association was formed in 1981 with six clay courts. Two courts and a fence were added to accommodate tournament play. Norm built the scoring devices and started the Platteville Open in 1984 followed by the Spring Singles in 1991. He has been the tournament director of both tournaments since their beginnings. He also originated Friday night hi-low doubles tournaments and has served as a club vice president since the mid 1980's.

The Sandbar Sports Arena opened in the fall of 1990 with Norm and Joyce directing the first few tournaments starting in April of 1991. They also built the scoring devices now used there.

Norm's highest tournament game was 85% (34/40) and his best tournament average 65.83%. He has pitched in six world tournaments, cashing in four. His best performance was in 1990, Stone Mountain, Georgia, when he pitched 62.80% in the Class C finals. He was a member of the Platteville team that won the 1991 and 1992 Club Team championship. Norm has competed six times in the Championship Men's class at the State Tournament. Though never placing higher than seventh, these were some of his favorite tournaments.

Health problems have limited Norm's pitching over the last two years, but he hopes to return to competition soon.

Norm's other hobbies include hunting, motorcycling, bowling, gardening, and watching televised sports.