

Meritorious Service



Carol Phillabaum was born on December 1, 1957 in Havre de Grace, MD. She was the fourth of five children born to Mildred and Harry Caponic of Aberdeen. She graduated from Aberdeen High School in 1975. In high school, she was a cheerleader and belonged to many school clubs and organizations. She was also an active member of her church youth group. She then attended Harford Community College, graduating in 1977 with an Associate of Arts Degree in Accounting.

Upon graduating from HCC, she began working for Davis Concrete Company until leaving to accept a position as office manager with Tucker Equipment Corporation, a construction equipment dealership

located on Rt. 40 in Aberdeen in February 1981. Carol still works for the company which changed ownership in 1994 becoming Folcomer Equipment Corporation.

Carol met her husband, Bob, while pursuing her other passion, racquetball. She loves it when people ask her how she met Bob. Her typical response is, "I paid him to spend time with me." Bob was one of the top racquetball players in the area and Carol approached him about taking lessons. He not only elevated her game, but he also found a place in her heart.

The two were married in 1985 and had their first child, Gregory, in January 1988. Their family was shattered in October of that same year when Gregory was diagnosed with several major heart defects. Despite the efforts of the top physicians at University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins Hospitals, Gregory died from complications following corrective open-heart surgery in September 1989.

Carol and Bob were overjoyed when they were blessed with two wonderful, healthy children in the years that followed. Megan was born in 1990, followed by Joshua in 1992. Their family was now complete.

Carol did not begin bowling until high school when she and several friends began bowling on Saturday nights at Harford Lanes. She joined her first league in 1979, bowling at Bel Air Bowl in the Sunday Night Live Mixed League with Anna and Ron Hall, and Buddy Wilson. She finished that season with a 122 average and was throwing a backup ball. She then began bowling at Harford Lanes, averaging two leagues each year and raising her average to the 140's. In 1982, Carol began dating her husband, Bob, who several years later changed several aspects of her game including teaching her to throw a hook.

She continued to improve with his coaching and began averaging 175 -179. Carol still bowls in the APG Men's League and the Kathryn Scott Classic (previously the Harford Ladies Classic) where she has served as President for almost 10 years.

Carol joined the Harford County Women's Bowling Association in 1997. She has since chaired almost all of the committees and has served as a member on the few remaining ones. Ironically, she has probably enjoyed serving as Chairman of the Hall of Fame Selection and Banquet Committees the most.

In her early years on the Board she was assigned to work as a representative to the Cecil-Harford YABA. She soon became Chairman of the Scholarship and Fundraising Committees and also served for several years as Vice President of the Association. Carol still serves as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

Carol has also had some luck on the lanes as well, earning several titles along the way. These include:

2002-03 HCWBA & CHCBA Annual Mixed Team Championship Scratch Title bowling with Bob Phillabaum, Lynn Markward and Bill Williams, Jr.

2004-05 HCWBA Annual Championship Scratch Doubles with Kathy Nori.

2005-06 HCWBA & CHCBA Annual Mixed Team Championship Scratch Title with Bob Phillabaum, Michelle Carey-Aki and Bill Williams, Jr.

2007-08 HCUSBCWBA Annual Championship Team Scratch and Handicap Titles with Stacy Reynolds, Elly Ripken and Austyn Ripken.

2008-09 HCUSBCWBA Annual Championship Scratch Team Title with Stacy Reynolds, Elly Ripken and Austyn Ripken.

2008-09 HCUSBCWBA Annual Championship Scratch Doubles Title with Stacy Reynolds.

Therefore, for her overall dedication to the sport of tenpin bowling, the Harford County USBC Women's Bowling Association welcomes Carol Phillabaum into its Hall of Fame in the Meritorious Service category.