

Superior Performance



Bernard A. Kuhn Jr was born in Baltimore to Anna and the late Bernard A. Kuhn. Bernie is the brother of Anita (Pasqualone), Brian and the late Douglas Kuhn. He attended St. Casimir's and Sacred Heart of Mary's Elementary Schools and graduated from Archbishop Curley High School in 1976 where he was a member of the soccer and chess teams. He was a member of St. Casimir's Boy Scout Troop 131 and attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 1974. He continued his education at Dundalk Community College and Francis Marion College in S.C. and was a member of their soccer teams. While playing at Dundalk Community College he was selected to the MD JUCO All Tournament Team in 1976.

Upon returning from S.C. he temporarily went to work at Fairlanes Dundalk where he met and tried to corrupt a wonderful young woman named Debbie Ponis. They married on October 18, 1986 and celebrated their 25th Anniversary this past October. In 2001 they moved to Abingdon where they currently reside. Bernie is employed at the GAF Materials Corporation as a stationary engineer.

Bernie's interest in bowling began as a fun day out in 1972 with friends as just something different to do but turned into a lifelong passion. Soon after, he joined a summer junior league at Fairlanes Dundalk and managed to average an astounding 106, but the bowling bug had bitten. He continued to bowl and improve through the years and eventually earned a place on the Fairlanes Dundalk Youth traveling team which competed on Sunday mornings throughout the Baltimore area. During college he remained in the youth program and continued to bowl with friends at Fairlanes Dundalk. His trusted Caramel White Dot made the trip to S.C. and saw action at All Star Lanes in Florence S.C. when time permitted.

After college while working at Fairlanes Dundalk he met and befriended a gentleman named Keith Bever. It was Keith who invited Bernie to join his team and started him on the path of tournament bowling. Keith also encouraged Bernie to seek out and learn from talented bowlers like Joe Doonan, Don Connors and Mike Lastowski. Bernie took Keith's advice and began

working and bowling with Mike Lastowski in the fall of 1985. Today, 27 years later, Mike has remained a coach, friend and teammate. In the late 1990's Keith's son Brian, entered his bowling life. Although they were bowling on separate teams a close friendship began and would eventually lead to the formation of his current tournament team-Cocktails-(Chele Schirmer, Debbie Kuhn, Bill Young, Brian Bever).

Bernie has had success at various Cecil Harford USBC Bowling Association and Maryland State USBC Association tournaments winning titles in singles, doubles and team events. He has also competed in 28 National USBC Tournaments. His highest National Tournament finish was in 1985 when he and partner Butch Gravely took the doubles lead with 1305 in March and eventually finished 9th. Bernie's National Team, "Gumbo", bowled 3000 or better 4 consecutive years from 1999 to 2002 with a high finish of 25th in 2000 bowling 3151.

Bernie is credited with 5-300 games, 2-299 games and 2-298 games. He has a one 800 series – 803. His highest average of 226 was in the Drug Trade League in Baltimore during the 2004 – 2005 season and 213 in the Bill Snaveley Scratch League at Harford Lanes. He currently bowls in the Freestate Men's League at Harford Lanes and is averaging 204.

In addition to competing in leagues and tournaments Bernie also contributes to the sport of bowling with service. He was the assistant coach of the men's and women's bowling teams at Essex Community College from 1994-1996 and the head coach in 1997 and 1998. In 1995 both the men's and women's teams won the NJCAA Region XX Tournament and the men's team Finished 3rd at the NJCAA National Tournament an accomplishment he is proud to have been part of as a coach. With the encouragement of good friend John Vananzo, he became a member of the Cecil Harford USBC Bowling Association Board of Directors in 2006 and continues to serve in that capacity today. Bernie looks forward to competing in leagues and tournaments and serving on the Board for years to come while creating many more cherished memories.

Therefore, for his overall performance in the sport of tenpin bowling, the Cecil Harford USBC Bowling Association welcomes Bernard A Kuhn Jr. into its Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

Titles and Accomplishments:

Cecil Harford Counties USBC Tournament Titles

1992 Team Scratch (Don Conners, Tony Smith, Russ Brocato, Mike Lastowski)

2005 Team Handicap (Vince Smith, Bill Young, Debbie Kuhn, Brian Bever)

2007 Team Scratch (Chele Schirmer, Debbie Kuhn, Bill Young, Brian Bever)

2007 Doubles Scratch (Mike Lastowski)

Cecil Harford Counties Mixed Tournament Titles

2007 Team Scratch (Chele Schirmer, Debbie Kuhn, Brian Bever)

2010 Team Scratch (Colleen Fino, Debbie Kuhn, Brian Bever)

Cecil Harford Counties 700 Club Tournament Titles

1987 Regular Singles Fairlanes Edgewood

2004 Mixed Doubles (Debbie Kuhn) Harford Lanes

2006 Regular Singles AMF Edgewood

2007 Regular Singles Forest Hill Lanes

2009 Senior Singles Harford Lanes

2009 Mixed Doubles (Debbie Kuhn) Forest Hill Lanes

Life Member of Cecil Harford Counties 700 Club

Maryland State USBC Tournament Titles

1989 Team Scratch (John Dilutis, Rich McFadden, Mike Lastowski, Mark Bowers)

2005 Team Scratch (Bryan Lindecamp, John Vananzo, Kevin Walker, Tim Moor)

Other Tournament Wins

Feb. 1988 Cecil Harford 700 Club 3 game Shootout/Youth Invitational

Mar. 1988 Qualifier to MD. State US Open Finals

Feb. 2008 Valentines Day Scotch Doubles Scratch (Debbie Kuhn)