

GARY BACHUS

Career Highlights

Gary started playing softball in 1970 in Bennett, Iowa, his home town. Like most players, he started out in baseball pitching and got hurt. So he went to the next best thing which was fast-pitch softball as a catcher. He played there until 1975 when a job took him to Des Moines, Iowa. In 1976, Gary's wife, through her job, found a team for him to play on in Des Moines. The team was called East Side A's. While living in Des Moines, he played also for A & J Truck Wash, Clearwater Beach, Western Lumber, Coors Bombers and others. The Coors Bombers won the 1982 ASA Iowa State Title and Gary had the privilege of catching Denny Linderbaum and Gene Olson to win that state tournament.

Gary played the 1985 season with Happy Chef from Mankato, Minnesota. There he had the privilege of catching Al Rausch and qualified for the ISC World Tournament in Kimberly, Wisconsin.

From 1986 through 1991, Gary played for the Farm Tavern from Madison, Wisconsin. The Farm qualified for the ISC and ASA in each year, coming in third in the ISC in 1987 and second in the ASA in 1988. Gary had the privilege of catching some of the best pitchers in the world including Mike Piechnik, Peter Meredith, Graeme Robertson, Jody Hennigar, and the others mentioned earlier.

While his batting statistics aren't available, Gary was an above average hitter – but well-known by his teammates as a clutch hitter. He really enjoyed calling the games and playing with and against great competitors from all over the world. It's these friendships through the game of fast-pitch softball that have lasted and will last a lifetime.