

Roger Ruhs

Softball Hall of Fame Resume

Roger grew up playing little league fast pitch softball and pony league fast pitch in Basco, Illinois. Roger did not play baseball until high school in Warsaw, Illinois. Even then he played fast pitch softball on some of the many small town teams in his area.

After playing baseball and basketball at Keokuk Community College, Roger moved to the Des Moines area, and immediately picked up with the Bondurant town team. He then played with Des Moines Jets, and then moved on to play with Jerry Sands and Moe Eubanks on the C and P Vending team.

In 1975, Roger got a call from Bill Peters asking for him to join the Bombers, and to learn to play first base. Roger had never played first base, but he wasn't going to turn down a chance to play for the Bombers. Roger made a smooth transition to first base, and held it down until he and Tom Stokesbary traded positions. Roger quickly readjusted to his old position, and remained a top fielding shortstop for the rest of his career.

After the 1980 season Bill Peters retired from sponsoring the Bombers, and Roger was picked up to play for the Clear Lake Butter Top. Roger played on two state championship teams in his three years with Butter Top.

After the 1983 season, Clear Lake and Modern Piping merged to form the Iowans, and Roger played for the team one season.

Roger finished his career playing for the Mankato Happy Chef team. After the 1985 season Roger decided it was time to call it quits while he was still on top of his game.

In his career Roger played for six state or regional championship teams. Roger was also a member of many all tournament, and all defensive teams. Roger battled over .300 every year of his career with a high of .367 in 1983. As a left handed hitter Roger used his speed to get on base, but he still managed to have a season with eleven home runs.

Roger had the honor of playing behind several Hall of Fame Pitchers including: Dean and Gene Olson, Gene Knop, Jerry Sands, Greg Bosch, Al Rausch, and Dallas Slagle.

Teams Roger Played For:

- 1972- Bondurant
- 1973- Des Moines Jets/ C&P Vending
- 1974- Des Moines C&P Vending
- 1975-80- Des Moines Bombers
- 1981-83- Clear Lake Butter Top
- 1984- Cedar Rapids Iowans
- 1985- Mankato Happy Chef