

## Resume for Ron Macek

**July 18, 1934 – June 22, 2014**

Ron started playing softball at age 15. He was also playing high school baseball at the same time. His baseball coach would not let his players play softball. His softball team used someone else's name for Ron in the write ups for the paper so his coach would not know he was playing softball. Ron played in his first state tournament when he was 17. Ron comes from a family of softball players. He had eight brothers who played softball, three of whom are in the Fort Dodge Assn. Hall of Fame. Ron was inducted into the Fort Dodge Assn. Hall of fame in 1979. He has played in ten state tournaments over the years. He played in state tournaments for local teams such as Vincent Clay, Tony's, and Sandy's. Other teams from Paton, Boxholm Swedes, and Des Moines teams would pick him up for state tournament play. While playing for Vincent Clay he was the team's only pitcher. That year they won the District and advanced to the state finals beating previous years state champion from Cedar Rapids 3-2, then lost to Glen Truckers by one run in 11 innings. Ron pitched every game in the state tournament.

Ron entered into the Army in 1957 at age 22. He pitched for the Specialist School Command winning the post championship. He was presented a trophy by the post Commanding General. In 1958 Ron was transferred to Germany and was again involved in softball. He pitched for his company team which won the 7<sup>th</sup> Army Troops Central Regional. Ron was the only pitcher the team had and pitched five days in a row winning every game. His record was 6-0. In the championship game Ron fanned 14 hitters and allowed only 4 hits in 8 innings

After discharge he was required to be in the Army Reserve in Fort Dodge. The Reserve unit started a softball team and Ron was the only pitcher and won three league championships. He pitched the team to two Battalion championships and one Division championship. There were many nights when Ron had to pitch both games of a double header. In 1964 the team became Sandy's Distributing. Ron played for the team through 1971. In 1968 the team won the District and Sub-State and finished fourth in the State Tournament. Over the years Ron's lowest ERA was .70 and was never over 1.94 and every year he would total over 300 strikeouts. Ron was also noted for being a great hitter and his batting average

was never under 300. In 1968 his slugging average was .586. Over the years Ron had countless no hitters, one hitters, strikeouts, and also three perfect games. No records were kept while playing for the Army Reserve team, but if so, many more records would be added to his playing career. For many years Ron compiled a record of over 20 wins. Sandy's team broke up after the 1971 season and Ron continued to play for a local league team winning a District tournament and two league championships. In 1968 and 1972 Ron received the most valuable player awards in invitational tournaments. Ron finally retired from softball after playing for 25 years.

Ron passed away in June 2014 from cancer, and he would have been so happy to have been inducted in the State Hall of Fame. His family will be very appreciative in receiving his award posthumously, as they are very proud of his softball accomplishments.