



ED CORTAS 2010



Ed started bowling in 1930. and really loved the game. He quickly became a promoter of the sport in Indiana.

From 1938-1941 *Ed* was president of the Elkhart Bowling Association. In 1948 he was elected Indiana State Bowling Association President and was later designated a life member by his peers at the State level.

Ed was instrumental in starting the Elkhart County Bowling Tournament which he ran very successfully for at least 8-years before becoming the Elkhart City Bowling Tournament. He actually sponsored and managed the first tournament himself. People commented that it should have been called "*The Ed Cortas Classic*" as a tribute to him for all the hard work he put into it.

Ed is probably well known for always having a cigar in his mouth. He was liked by everyone who knew him. Former bowlers said that he was a remarkable competitor, really tough to beat even though he had poor health and injuries to contend with throughout his entire career.

In early 1940, *Ed* helped put together a team called the "Baby Beef's" and they were the talk of the town in all northern Indiana & southern Michigan Bowling centers. The team was made up of six high average bowlers all weighing in at close to 250 pounds or more each bowler.

They were a sight to see bowling with their white shirts, vests, and neckties. As time went on one of the original Baby Beef's left the team and he was replaced on the team by a fellow named Mike Heintz (nicknamed T-bone) because Mike only weighed in at 140 pounds soaking wet.