



DOUG TAFT 2010



Doug began bowling in the Oakland Lanes Bantam league in 1969 at the age of 9 averaging a whopping 103. *Doug* started working at Oakland Lanes in 1980 in lane maintenance and later became the Manager before moving to Signature Lanes as Manager in 2009

He started bowling in adult leagues in 1977 at Oakland Lanes in the Thursday night late league starting at 9:00 p.m. and not getting done some nights until midnight. *Doug* rolled his first 700 series (743) of his career at Country Club Lanes in 1980.

1982 *Doug* won the Chippewa Open at Maple City Bowl defeating Pat Alexander of Fort Wayne in the championship match. In 1983 he became the 5th bowler in Elkhart Bowling Association history to bowl an 800 series (812) at the Eagles Lanes and that was the first 800 series ever bowled at the Eagles. A week later *Doug* bowled his first 300 game at the Eagles.

In 1989 *Doug* bowled the first ever 800 series at Oakland Lanes, also an 812.

In 1992 *Doug* broke the current 3-game record series of 826 set by Bill Chris in 1973 at Country Club Lanes. Bowling in the highly competitive 20-team Sunday Morning league at Oakland Lanes *Doug* blistered the lanes with 841 series.

Doug was a member of a mixed team with Rick Gravender, Jane (Ruess) Slabaugh & Sandy Fawley that won the 3rd Annual City Mixed Tournament.

Doug has been a frequent winner in numerous past Elkhart City Tournaments having won 1st place in 1981 with his brother Steve taking both the scratch & handicap divisions and *Doug* was also the scratch all events cham

Doug has to his Elkhart City Tournament credit the following list of accomplishments.

2 – 1st place singles scratch titles

3 – 1st place doubles titles, two with partner Jim Rowe

3 – all events scratch titles

5 – team scratch titles with five different teams.

1 – team scratch title in the Mishawaka City Tournament

In the history of the annual Elkhart City Truth Roll Off which was a showcase of the city's best bowlers throughout the past year, *Doug's* greatest win came in 1989.

The Roll Off was being held that year at Country Club Lanes and *Doug's* win came against the final six bowlers that included Tony Ferro, Steve Gard, Jerry Healey Sr., Don Ravenscroft & Bob Weiland who are all past Roll Off winners and all have been inducted into the Elkhart City Bowling Hall of Fame.

Doug's Truth Roll off accomplishments include the following.

1989 – Won at Country Club Lanes

1990 – Placed 2nd at Oakland Lanes behind the winner Jim Pierce.

1995 – Won at Oakland Lanes

1998 – Won at OC Lanes

2000 – Won at Country Club Lanes becoming the 1st 4-time Roll Off winner

Another one of *Doug's* accomplishment's was winning the prestigious Mishawaka Classic League twice with 2 different teams which was a showcase of most of Michiana's best bowlers.

Doug was secretary/treasurer of the Night Workers Industrial league at Oakland Lanes for 27-years.

He was a youth coach at Oakland Lanes for many years.

Doug was a member of the Elkhart Men's Bowling Association Hall of Fame Committee for 3-years (2006-2008).

Doug lives here in Elkhart with his wife Sandy and 2 daughters, Mikki and Jamie and has two grandson's, Camryn & Kaidence.

,Current list of accomplishments include:

23 - 300 – Games 10 – 299 – Games

4 - 298 – Games 11 - 800 - Series