

# **GORDON (GORDY) BAKER**

## **Fast Pitch Softball Resume**

My fast pitch Softball history started in 1962 playing for EUB Church. I was 12 years old. I was drafted into the Army in 1970 where I played pickup fast pitch softball until I was discharged in 1972.

Upon my return to the States, I was hired by Maytag in Newton. There I played in a fast pitch league. While I was in the Maytag league I was introduced to organized softball and started playing for Baxter. In those days every little town had at least one team. I played in their league from 1972-1975.

In 1976 I started playing with Sully Plumbing and Heating and played with them for 15 years. My first year I was the new guy and was a utility player and played several different positions. The second year I started playing second base and batting second. I remained in that position the remainder of my career with Sully Plumbing and Heating.

While playing with Sully Plumbing and Heating we played in numerous tournaments in Iowa, as well as Minnesota, Missouri and Ohio. We also played in the league at Bomber Park in Des Moines against such teams as the DM Bombers, Clear Lake Buttr' top, DM Reames, Ames Palmas. We played in all the District Tournaments, Sub State Tournaments, and the 1979 1980, 1981, and 1989 Open State Tournaments. Our best finish in the open state tournament was 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Modern Pipe and The Bombers in 1979 at Cedar Rapids. We also advanced to several class A Regional's.

In 1988 after Sully was eliminated from the State Tournament, I was invited by Dave Temple to play with Agri Pro winning the Regional's in Sioux City and then advancing on to the ASA Nationals in Decatur Illinois. In the finals of the regionals in Sioux City, I drove in the tying run and scored the winning run.

I also played in the over 40 National Tournament with the B40 Bombers finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in Grand Island, NE.

Even though I am not able to play softball any longer, my love for the game still burns in my heart. Highlights are the memories of all the players I met through the years and the time spent with team members and our families. Also, I was inducted into the Des Moines Fast Pitch Hall of Fame in 2003 joining teammates Larry Hendricks, Al Van Dyke, Abie Davis, and manager Don Moes.