

Dennis K. Brasfield
January 22, 1957 - October 7, 2009

Our final Hall of Fame award winner of the evening is Dennis Brasfield.

Dennis is going to be remembered for many years to come in the Tuscaloosa bowling community, due to his generosity (especially with his time), knowledge of bowling and the kindness he always shared with this community. Dennis was born on January 22nd, 1957 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and he spent his whole life right here in Tuscaloosa. Shortly after finishing school at Tuscaloosa High School, Dennis joined the United States Marine Corps, and after his service with the Marines ended, he started working for Banks Quarles Plumbing and Heating in 1974. After Dennis worked for Banks Quarles for 28 years, he opened his own company, "Tuscaloosa Plumbing" in 2002.

Dennis began bowling in 1985 with his beloved wife Lisa just for fun. It didn't take long for him to become, as some of us bowlers would say, addicted to bowling. Soon thereafter Dennis' love of the game became so great that he was constantly trying to get others involved with bowling, and he began getting people to join him in league bowling. Eventually he became instrumental in forming several leagues himself in the late 1980' s. For 2 years he served as President of a plumber's league that he had formed. He later joined several other men's and mixed leagues, and continued bowling until January of 2009. Once he started forming these leagues his passion for the sport continued to grow and he wanted to learn more about bowling. In this quest for knowledge he decided to open up his own pro-shop in 1992 and named it "DJ's Pro Shop" after his son DJ. He felt that this was one of his greatest achievements, and upon opening the pro shop Dennis attended classes and became certified in drilling bowling balls. Even after his certification, his thirst for knowledge about all of the new bowling equipment coming onto the market took him to almost every class available to learn about state of the art advances in the bowling equipment industry.

Although Dennis' thirst for knowledge about all things bowling was time consuming, he was equally dedicated to helping other bowlers improve their own games and knowledge about the proper bowling equipment. When a new bowler would come into the pro shop to purchase their very first equipment, Dennis always enjoyed taking the extra time to help them make the right choice of equipment to best suit their bowling abilities. Numerous bowlers in this room will tell you that he was always gencrous with his time to help all bowlers, and was especially active in helping the youth bowlers in Tuscaloosa. One of his greatest enjoyments was getting to watch the young bowlers learn and improve their games. It gave Dennis great pleasure to be able to watch some of the bowlers that he had helped work to improve to go on to gain recognition for their bowling, win awards, improve their averages, bowl perfect games, or just to see them increase their own joy of bowling. Due to his countless hours of assistance and dedication to the Tuscaloosa bowling community, Dennis got to see this happen often with all ages of bowlers that he had helped.

Although DJ's Pro Shop and Dennis' ability to affect the Tuscaloosa bowling community through the Pro Shop, was one of his greatest achievements, Dennis was forced to close the shop in 1999 to spend more time with his son DJ, whom he was extremely proud of, and his wife Lisa.

Throughout Dennis's bowling career he never stopped trying to improve his own bowling game. He bowled in many City and State Tournaments, and he won several

tournaments along the way. He held several high average awards in some of the leagues that he bowled in. His high average was a 206 and his high series was a 794. He also attained the highest bowling achievement, and the one that we bowlers are always striving for, when he bowled a perfect 300 game.

Dennis passed away five months ago, on October 7, 2009, after battling cancer. He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Lisa Guy Brasfield and his only child D.J. Brasfield, and many of us were lucky enough to have bowled with them in various leagues throughout the years. Dennis was a devoted husband, loving father & a great friend to many of us, and the bowling community has lost one of its greatest ambassadors of the game. He will continue to be missed by us all, and the mark that he has left on this community will not soon be forgotten.

Would you please join me in presenting this award posthumously to his wife Lisa and his son D.J.