

## **Our tournament dedication for 2018 is Ned Martin.**

At 91 years young, his story is amazing.

Ned said his first introduction to bowling, was in 1943, when he set pins for a bowling center in Chicago.

But life happens and shortly after that Ned was drafted and spent time in the South Pacific serving his country in the navy. After his military service was done, he worked at several factories over the years, but being restless he re-enlisted, training in communications. He served this time in Japan, into the early 1950's. While in the service he converted and when he got out, he attended a Bible College and worked with a church in Ohio. He married for the first time in 1955.

During that time, he moved to Holland. While in the hospital for the birth of his youngest son, in 1966, he was talking with a gentleman there; the subject came around to bowling, and that was the beginning of his bowling "career" in the Holland area. He joined the Tuesday Night Business league at Holland Bowling Center where he was a member for many years.

Ned let me know his middle name was "SPORTS". As a youth; he loved baseball, basketball and even Ping pong.

Ned spent many years working in machining: being employed at R.E. Barber Ford and DeNooyer car dealers. When he retired in 1989, his bowling "addiction" really took off and in the 1990's he bowled as much as 10 times a week. 3 days he bowled in 2 leagues, and 2 days in one league, and then there was the MBT (Michigan Bowlers Tour) a handicap tournament that would run on weekends. With this tournament he bowled all over the state.

However, around 1996 he met this lovely lady, in of course, a bowling center, who would become his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife. She liked bowling, but wanted to do something else. So he cut down the bowling to 3 days a week and kept her happy by going to a dance class 😊

He now averages around 160-170, however his highest average was a 213. He has rolled 4 perfect games (not all in sanctioned leagues) and he has the distinction of being the oldest bowler in the Holland area to roll a 300 game. This happened 10 years ago when he was **just 81** years old.

Today Ned bowls Monday at Zeeland, a bunch of friends just getting together, Thursday he bowls in the Senior league at BAM and Friday another senior league at Northland.

Ned, your love of bowling, and your enjoyment of the sport, make dedicating the 2018 tournament to you a very deserving honor, and we hope you can continue bowling for many more years.

