

BOB WELBY MEMORIAL RECOGNITION OF SERVICE AWARD

Daniel D. Dolan Family - Sponsor - 2016



In terms of athletic legacy, the Dolan name is a century old, as 100 years ago Daniel D. Dolan's grandfather O.B. Dolan, proud proprietor of OB Dolan's Saloon, hosted prize fighting events in the lower level, attracting some of the finest fighters in the Midwest.

Daniel D., born in February 1931, is a life-time citizen of Aurora IL, except for a brief stint in the navy.

In the sixties, Sealmaster Stadium in Aurora was home to the Stephens

Adamson Sealmasters, a world class softball team. Daniel would take his children to the stadium, in itself a local version of Americana, where youngsters would chase foul balls, later hawking them for nickels.

The year 1965 was pivotal as Daniel and his business partner James A. Murphy formed Dolan & Murphy. At the same time the Dolan name was synonymous with Aurora Boy's Baseball as Daniel's second cousin Bernie Dolan, and local businessman George Andrews formed Aurora Boy's Baseball. Dolan & Murphy Real Estate came on board as a pioneer sponsor, and Daniel's children Daniel T. and Brian participated in the league, as well as suiting up for football and basketball at Our Lady of Good Counsel and East Aurora High Schools. Later, son Ryan and daughter Kara also competed at OLGC and Aurora Central Catholic School.

Eventually several grandsons and grand-daughters further carried the Dolan athletic torch in Aurora. In 1982, the Creative DJs, a City League team in Aurora was seeking support and Dolan & Murphy, by then a successful commercial real estate company, agreed to sponsor the team and ventured into the competitive world of fast-pitch softball..

Five years later, Robin Reder, a member of the Aurora IL Home Savings & Loan team that won the 1980 ISC Tournament in Tempe AZ, was managing a local team with aspirations of representing Aurora at the ISC World Tournament. Dolan & Murphy agreed to serve as the sponsor - a relationship that still exists today.

Fastpitch was very competitive in Illinois in the 1980-90s. It took five years before Dolan & Murphy Shamrocks won the local qualifier in 1992 and travelled to Salt Lake City UT for its inaugural ISC World Tournament. The team didn't qualify in 1993, but in 1994 re-qualified and has never since missed ICS's annual world-class event.

Robin Reder has been at the helm of Dolan and Murphy Shamrocks as both Manager and as a Player/Manager, and according to Daniel, "The Reder Family, beginning with Bob "Bulldog" Reder (and Jo Reder the true "Bulldog"), sisters Denise, Janice and Candi, has been equally synonymous in the Fastpitch Softball world as the Dolan Family."

Fastpitch sponsorship is only one of numerous Dolan family civic activities, including support for Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry and Interfaith Food Pantry, which are prominent during the Thanksgiving/Christmas holiday season's Citywide Holiday Food Drive.

Daniel shared that he extends a special thanks and recognition to the Reder family and Ed Kirner for their role in making the 2016 induction day possible.