

# Denny Delorit - HoF - 2014

## **Denny Delorit**

**Egg Harbor, WI • Hitter/Infielder • Born November 28, 1947**

**Presenter – Jesse Delorit**

Denny feels fortunate to have been raised around the game of softball. He grew up watching his dad Robert, one of the best homerun hitters in the state of Wisconsin when Robert played. Denny never realized just how many homeruns his dad hit until he saw the saved newspaper clippings when his dad passed away in 2005. Robert, like Denny, never bragged about his game. He just kept playing because of his passion and love of the game.

“I was very lucky to follow in his footsteps and become a hitter that was able to continuously advance to higher levels of play”.

It was in 1976 with Tommy's Angels of Oshkosh, Wisconsin when Denny's ambitions to further his softball career began to progress. That year, at the world tournament, he tied Paul “Lucky” Humiston's record for homeruns in a World Tournament and was voted First Team All World. The transition from there was a progression to other teams to play better competition. Starting with All Car of Antigo to The Farm of Madison to Aurora Home Savings then to Sioux City Penn Corp. The rest is history. Named to two ISC All World Teams and three ASA All American Teams. Denny feels lucky to have had the opportunity to play against the best ball players of the 70's, 80's and 90's.

Denny would like to thank all of his sponsors; John Miller - The Bar, Tommy Rabe - Tommy's Angels, Les Cigel - All Car, Rod Peterson - The Farm, everyone involved with Aurora Home Savings and the trip to Japan. And finally, Ken Opsteine of Sioux City who also provided him a job after his was eliminated in Green Bay and sent him on an unforgettable trip to New Zealand to play ball.

Denny believes his legacy to softball would be his promoting of the game wherever he went, good sportsmanship, helping any player who asked for help and always having fun while playing.

“A special thank you to my son Jesse and Ed Kirner from Aurora who nominated me for this award. To my wife, Mary Jo, who along with my children moved to Sioux City for my career in insurance sales and leaving all of their friends and family behind.”

Denny is the father of four children and three grandchildren that he can't get enough of. Now retired, Denny and Mary Jo are enjoying time with their family, his Harley Davidson, daily walks on the golf course and fishing on the docks of Egg Harbor in Door County, Wisconsin.