

Doug Middleton - HoF - 2017

Doug Middleton – Blue Springs MO – September 18, 1962



Doug Middleton grew up in Springfield MO and as a natural athlete enjoyed a multitude of sports. He started playing softball at age 10, where he learned the game from his father Chuck Middleton who coached Doug and his team-mates to four national championships in youth ball.

Doug entered ISC competition in 1984 and his entire career evolved around teams in the Missouri – Kansas area. A memorable 1988 ISC tournament, when Doug's team – Harold's

Supermarkets of Lexington MO – was perfect in their first five games, clawing its way to the Championship final. En route, Doug hurled five consecutive wins, including shutouts over Nava Brothers, Hayward CA; Sioux City IA Penn Corp; Nothdurft Tool, Detroit MI and Owen Sound Canadian Tire (Brad Underwood) and a 2-1 win over Peter Finn and the Midland MI Explorers. Doug recalls his team having only 9 guys remaining for the championship game and Sioux City IA Penn Corp showed its prowess sweeping Lexington in the two game Sunday format.

During his quarter century career, Doug was named ISC All-World four times – three times on the first team with Harold's Supermarkets, Lexington MO (1988); Topeka Travelers, Topeka KS (1995) and Meierhoffer, St. Joseph MO (2002). In 2002 in Kitchener ON Doug was named to the 2nd team with St. Joseph Frontier Casino when his team-mate and friend Michael White won the Outstanding Pitcher Award, as the pair combined to lead St. Joseph to a sterling 10-1 record and the ISC championship. Doug had four wins striking out 56 in 37 innings and posting a 0.72 ERA.

Overall, Doug ranks 9th in ISC career wins (38) spanning the period 1986 – 2002. Possessing a quiet disposition and obvious humility, Doug was a leader by example on rosters that featured many outstanding players.