

Dude Ausmus - HoF - 1987

ALFRED F. "DUDE" AUSMUS

By: Katherine Bewley

Anyone that knows Dude Ausmus, knows he loves sports. Dude has been athletic all his life. Dude has played many sports from Pee Wee Ball to Golf. He has always excelled in his endeavors, from winning ball games to hitting a hole in one.

Fast Pitch Softball has been his passion. For over 30 years, from about age 12 until his retirement in 1978. Dude Ausmus from Kiefer, Oklahoma played spectacular ball. Dude's love of the game began as a child hitting a tennis ball with a softball bat to his brother Dutch as they walked to school

Playing all positions, except catcher, Dude was an outstanding player in all areas. To mention a few of his softball achievements: Catching the last out in the 1955 NSC championship game to help his team, Sapulpa Brick & Tile, to win the world championship title against San Pedro, California 6 to 4 and earning the NSC Leading Hitter in 1955 with a .563 average. In 1961, he also copped the ISC Leading Hitter with a .500 average while playing for Dautrich Realty of El Paso, Texas. Dude was named NSC All American 6 times and has played in 5 World Tournaments. Of course, his induction into the 1987 ISC Hall of Fame in Saskatchewan, Canada was an awesome honor.

Dude has pitched no hit - no run games, hit home runs, stolen bases, caught game winning balls, you name it, when it comes to Fast pitch Softball, Dude has done it.

He is held in high regard by colleagues and friends, not just for his sports abilities but also for his character and high sense of fairness. They don't come any better than Dude Ausmus. As one Sports Editor wrote, "Dude Ausmus is honest, friendly, a good sport, humble and always thankful for any good fortune that might come his way."

Dude Ausmus is truly a home town softball hero from Kiefer, Oklahoma, that went all the way in the International Softball Hall of Fame, has stayed one of the "Good Guys" that we can all be proud of and look up to.