

## Jim Hallman - HoF - 2018



Jim Hallman, 63, and his extended family have had a long-time love affair with softball as local players, corporate sponsors and team/league administrators.

Following the untimely and tragic passing of his brother Peter in 1999, Jim and his wife Sue spear-headed a family-based group that was committed to Peter's vision of success – namely having a “family” of teams with the Twins logo on travel teams from minor softball, through the Jr. Twins and competitive men's senior teams.

The Hallman family became a co-sponsor in 2002 of the Waterloo Twins who at that time were one of the longest participating senior teams in Canada. In 2005, Jim assumed primary sponsorship creating the Kitchener Hallman Twins, with the team finishing 3rd at the ISC Championship in Eau Claire WI.

As well, Jim was very supportive of Kitchener's hosting of the ISC Championships in 2006 and 2007. In 2008, following an amalgamation with the Orillia ON Quaker Riversharks, the new-look Rivershark Twins became just the 2nd Canadian team to win the highly competitive ISC Championship, defeating Saskatoon SK Aspen Interiors in Kimberly WI. In 2009, the Rivershark Twins repeated that success in Quad Cities IA/IL beating the Broken Bow NE Patsy's in the championship tilt.

In 2010, in Midland MI, Twins almost made it three-peat, losing in the championship final to the Jarvis ON Travelers.

The Hallman family has also been instrumental in forming the Kitchener Cubs, a team that has consistently competed in the ISC annual tournaments from 2006-15, finishing the 2009 tourney as ISC II finalists.

Jim and Sue dig in with hands-on enthusiasm ranging from contacting additional sponsors, delivering posters, loading the truck with supplies for the concessions, chasing foul balls, serving as a games controller... there are very few responsibilities that haven't been personally impacted by the “Hallman touch”.

Jim and Sue are humble sponsors, and state that “While the championships and wins are great, it is the people we have met and worked with who I will continue to remember – the great people/ players who have worn the Twins jersey during my time – the great people behind the scenes, the many managers and coaches we have had, getting to know the families of the players. The golf games, the fun and enjoyment of playing a game we love. The tears and the joy.”

In particular, Jim acknowledges key individuals who have helped along the way – Dave Bailey, Larry Lynch, Robert Nydick, Doc Simmons, Doug Eidt, Steve Kooser and Ron Hackett.

The personable couple have embraced softball at the ISC level, and provide generous support that has been instrumental in keeping competitive men's fastball alive in the local community. At the outset in 2002, that financial commitment ensured a strong host team for Kitchener's hosting its first-ever World Tournament.

This legacy of fastball excellence is notable not only locally, but as well throughout the broader ISC world, as evidenced by Kitchener's hosting, for the 5th time, the ISC World Tournament in August 2018.