

## **K.G. Fincher - HoF - 1986**

"I LOVED PLAYING FASTPITCH SOFTBALL" - - - THE HALL OF FAME CAREER OF K.G. FINCHER

By: Gordon L. Wise - - - ISC Information Officer

He WAS the best; he PLAYED with the best; and the RESULTS were the best!!

That pretty well sums up the career of the legendary hurler, K.G. Fincher, who was THREE TIMES an All-World Tournament selection when he pitched for the Gardena, California, Merchants.

That career, beginning in the church leagues of San Diego in 1955 and culminating in his induction into the International Softball Congress Hall of Fame in 1986, was dotted with successes along the way. Some of them included:

- Selection as an All-World Tournament team pitcher in 1963 and 1966 when his Gardena team captured the ISC World Championship;
- Selection to the All-World Tournament team in 1964 when his Gardena team finished in fourth place in the ISC World Tournament;
- Pitching for the champion Lakewood, California, Jets in the 1973 ISC World Tournament;
- Selection as Most Valuable Player in the ISC World Tournament of 1966;
- Selection as Most Outstanding Pitcher in the ISC World Tournaments of 1963 and 1966;
- Author of three no-hitters in ISC World Tournament competition (1964; 1967; 1968);
- Playing with an incredible array of ISC Hall of Fame members over his career - - - a lineup which included such notables as: Bryan Voight; Les Haney; Don Leslie; Dick Gonzales; Bob Guy; Dick Brubaker; Jim Aversing; Frank Trejo; Hice Stiles; Don Frazier; and John Wilson;
- Racking up a pitching record of 54 and 6 during the 1974 season which Fincher describes as "probably my best year - - - playing for Guanella Brothers and sponsors Walt and Ray - - - I was the smallest pitcher of three at 6'3" and 225 - - - on a team which won the A.S.A. Nationals en route to a record of 110 10."
- All the way from the church league to his induction into the ISC Hall of Fame in 1986 it was a career which is hard to top. As Fincher himself describes it:

"I had a great time playing the game I loved, made a lot of great friends. It all came to a peak in '86 when I was inducted into the International Softball Congress HALL OF FAME."

HATS OFF - - - STANDING OVATION - - - ONE OF THE LEGENDS OF THE GAME - - - -

K. G. FINCHER!!!