



## Brad Hunter

### North Central Texas Hall of Fame

One of the earliest memories Brad has about bowling is watching his father bowl the Debry League at Great Southwest Lanes. So it should be no surprise that one of his favorite victories would be actually winning that league with his father when he turned adult and joined his team. Although the league had moved to Alpine Lanes in Euless after Great Southwest lanes had closed, the good majority of the bowlers were

still bowling.

He spent most of his weekends as a child traveling the southwest with his mother and step father; who ran the Master Bowlers Association bowling tournaments. During those days, there were no automatic score keepers, so he and his little brother were designated to this task by their parents. It was not until his parents handed the tournament over to another couple that I was able to start bowling league in my early teens. Brad started to take a serious interest in bowling at the start of high school. He tried out for the team as a freshman and made it. While their team was not very good, it was a lot of fun travelling around the city and competing against other teams where he met a few lifelong friends; Chris Warren and Don Richey.

After High School, he started bowling tournaments. Goose and Johnnie Wall had weekend tournaments in the area and he was quickly hooked trying to win one. It took a year or so to finally win one at Plaza Bowl in Arlington. After winning a few more tournaments, Brad decided to try bowling a scratch tournament and the PBA regional program was about the only thing around at the time. He was absolutely terrified that he had to cross with Henry Gonzales. He averaged around 190 for the tournament and was headed to the car with my bag when Cecil Caddell stopped to inform him that if he wanted a check, he had to check his equipment in for approval.

After cashing in a regional Brad wanted to give try the Red River Doubles which remains one of his favorites to date. In 1991, after bowling the tournament for several years and knowing it was the last year it would be at the original Falls Bowl, he got as close as he ever would and finished second with Tony Franklin. While it would have been great to win, they did lose to arguably the greatest Red River team in history, his good friend Randy Johnson, who has since passed away and his all-time favorite bowler, Bob McGregor.

His second favorite tournament was the High Roller in Las Vegas. The entry fee was \$1000 and first place was \$200,000. Making the top 8 was his best finish and cashed for \$10,000.

Because the High Roller tournament was only open to amateurs he did not participate in the PBA very much but was able to win the 1990 Regional Rookie of the Year. In 1998 after a few years off, Brad came back and won his only regional tournament in Port Arthur, Texas with Kelly Ray in the annual doubles tournament.

Brad would like to give thanks to God who blessed him with the ability to bowl and his wife Kathy who has encouraged and supported him the last 20 years. He would also like to thank the North Central Texas USBC board in the Hall of Fame nomination.

