

John D. Sauter

John D. Sauter was born in Pasadena, Texas on November 1, 1940 to parents John and Lela Sauter. After moving to Nashoba, OK the family returned to La Porte, TX where John played basketball and football and graduated from La Porte High School. John was a member of Pipefitters Local 211, the National Guard and belonged to Bethany Assembly of God Church.

John began bowling at La Porte Lanes in the '60's, and he bowled for years in Pasadena. He supported city, state and national tournaments as well as the Doubles Bowling Association and SASBA (Senior All Stars). His bowling accomplishments included 1- SASBA title, 2- 800 series (809- 12/21/89 and 807- 4/18/91), 2- 299 games and 1- 298. He also earned and collected numerous trophies, watches, jackets, plaques, clocks, rings and other awards throughout his stellar bowling career. John's love of the sport and knowledge of the game prompted him to work with the youth bowlers in the La Porte and Pasadena YABA programs. Friends and family alike respected John, and, he never met a stranger.

Having a special needs niece, Roberta Garrett of Pt. Arthur, TX, opened the door for John to help her and other Special Olympic athletes for several years. He loved working with the youth, teaching and coaching others on how to improve their games. However, John's daughter, Cyndi, inherited his "stubborn streak" and that prevented the two from working together in bowling.

John was an avid sports nut. He would simultaneously watch three televisions on three different channels keeping up with the sports he so loved. A particular favorite was NASCAR driver Dale Jarrett.

"Chef John" also loved to cook. Seafood was his specialty.

Even though sick, one of John's last wishes was to compete in the 1998 ABC National Tournament in Reno, NV in June. Travelling with teammates including Don Parnell, Mel Skaggs, Tim Evers, Mano Graham, Rick Thomas, Charlie Falco and Bobby Browder, he fulfilled his promise and commitment to his team. John averaged 185 on a tough tournament condition; upon returning to Houston, he was admitted into the hospital.

John was released to go home and was reunited with his parents, in his heavenly home, on July 9, 1998.

The Hall of Fame membership joins daughter Cyndi Sauter and granddaughter Sara Wilson of Friendswood, sister Elaine Mahoney of Nashoba, OK, brother Jerold Sauter of Pasadena and a host of family and friends in honoring John Sauter with posthumous induction into the Pasadena Bowling Hall of Fame.