



MINNESOTA SOFTBALL HALL OF FAME
NOMINATION FORM



2024

Nominee Randall Burtzel Birth date 12/01/1954

Address 29036 Kepler Court City/State Cold Spring, MN Zip 56320

Softball Community where major accomplishments were achieved Wabasso (Nick's 66)

Is that softball community's program currently affiliated with the MSF, the MN Softball Hall of Fame Administrator/Custodian? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Home Phone () Cell Phone (320) 293-5338

Email Address randall.burtzel@gmail.com

Check the Nomination Category: ☒ Superior Performance

☐ Meritorious Service

☐ Pioneers of Yesterday

Check all that apply:

☒ Player

☐ Manager/Coach

☐ Promoter

☐ Administrator

☐ Umpire

☐ Sponsor

Check all that apply:

☒ Fastpitch

☐ Modified Pitch

☐ Slowpitch

Nominated by _____ Date of Nomination _____
(If a relative, must have a seconding nomination by non-relative)

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () Cell Phone ()

Email Address _____

Seconding Nomination Name _____

- CONTINUED ON REVERSE/NEXT PAGE -

Nominee's Personal Stats Played from 1973 to 1989 (Lead off hitter/Center Fielder)

Career batting average over .300

Exceptional Defensive Centerfielder with a very strong arm

Leadoff Hitter with a very good on base percentage

Lead team in stolen bases, most if not all years played-excellent speed

Nominee's Personal Accomplishments

1. I scored the winning run to make our team's first state tournament apperance but it ocured in a very unusual fashion. I hit a

single in the bottom of the seventh, stole second base and then scored on a hit by John VanLoy on an "attempted intentional walk" from Gus of Kiester. The pitch was close enough to the plate that John was able to reach out and hit it!

2. Lead the team with 11 hits in 22 at bats in the 1986 State Tournament (State Champions). Coach Leo Grossman was quoted as

saying: "When Randy gets on base, Wabasso seems to win!"

Nominee's Team Accomplishments ISC league runner ups 2 years in a row, losing to Happy Chef & All American Bar

1986 Minnesota State Class A Fastpitch Tournament Champions

1986-7th Place National Class A Fastpitch Tournament

1986 ISC Class AA World Fastpitch Participant-Drafted by Mankato Happy Chef

1984 Minnesota State Class A Fastpithch Tournament Runner-up to Gordys and Regional Runner-up to ERS

1987 Minnesota State Class A Fastpitch Tournament Runner-up to Scandia

- ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY -

Attach a one or two page narrative, **as you would want their bio read at the nominee's potential induction ceremony**. Provide pertinent accomplishments of nominee in city, district, state, regional or national competition. **(See reverse side for sample bio)**. Also, attach newspaper clippings, letters of reference or other forms of documentation. **Include statistical information in the bio.**

Send to: Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame Committee • 118 12th Ave. N. • South St. Paul, MN 55075
(651) 451-3140

DEADLINE FOR SENDING THIS NOMINATION IS JUNE 1

PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT--ATTACHMENT

Randall Burtzel

Continued:

3. Lead team with 9 hits in 1984 State Tournament that we finished as runner-up
4. Selected to Redwood County League All Star Team that faced Eddie Feigner-The King and his Court, a four man team, in an exhibition game. Eddie Feigner was the greatest pitcher that Randy ever faced!

Randy Burtzel Bio

Randy Burtzel became interested in the game of fastpitch softball during high school while watching a Wabasso vs Lucan playoff fastpitch game with the winner going to the State Tournament. The game featured pitchers Skeeze Radel from Wabasso and Perry Hansen from Lucan. His high school baseball coach, Leo Grossman, was an excellent player on the Wabasso team. There was a huge crowd on hand and Lucan brought a double decker bus loaded with fans for this playoff game! Leo Grossman was the person who asked Randy to join the Wabasso fastpitch team the summer after graduating from high school.

Randy played for the Wabasso fastpitch team from 1973 to 1989. He was the team's leadoff hitter and centerfielder. He had a career batting average over .300, was an exceptional defensive centerfielder with a very strong arm, lead the team in stolen bases, most if not all the years he played. He also had a very good on-base percentage because he drew many walks in addition to being a very good contact hitter.

Some of Randy's career and team highlights are:

1. Randy scored the winning run in the game to make his team's first State appearance but it occurred in a very unusual fashion. Randy singled in the bottom of the seventh, stole 2nd base and then scored on a single to centerfield by John VanLoy on an "attempted intentional walk" pitch from Gus of Kiester. The pitch was close enough to the plate that John was able to reach out and hit it!
2. Randy lead the team with 9 hits in the 1984 State Tournament where Wabasso took second place.
3. Randy lead the team with 11 hits in 22 at bats in the 1986 State Tournament that Wabasso was crowned State Champion. After the tournament Coach Leo Grossman was quoted saying, "When Randy gets on base, Wabasso seems to win!"
4. Wabasso finished 7th in the 1986 National Class A fastpitch tournament, However, Randy's National Tournament participation was cut short due to an injury.
5. Randy was drafted by Mankato Happy Chef to play in the 1986 ISC Class AA World Fastpitch Tournament.
6. Wabasso finished as ISC League runner-up 2 years in a row, losing to the Class AA power house teams of Mankato Happy Chef and All American Bar.
7. Wabasso finished as runner-up to Scandia in the 1987 State Class A tournament.
8. Randy was selected as a Redwood County All Star to play against Eddie Feigner-The King and his Court, a four man team, in an exhibition game. Eddie Feigner was the greatest pitcher Randy every faced!

All good things have to come to an end. Randy retired from the game he loved in 1989.

Randy felt very fortunate to have played with such a fun and talented group of players who shared a lot of team success. Most of the players either lived in the Wabasso area and/or graduated from Wabasso High School, so the team had a great community backing. Wabasso Nick's 66 Fastpitch Team had the

best sponsor in the State-Nick Guetter aka "Big Guy". Nick treated the team like royalty. Nick's 66 also had a strong cheering section consisting of players' wives and 28 children between the ages 0-8 that wore blue Nick's Farm Club T-shirts. They were all part of the reason for the team's success!

Randy is proud to say that he played for Wabasso Nick's Fastpitch team. In those 16 years, he not only played for a top-ranked team but also made our community proud.
