



MINNESOTA SOFTBALL HALL OF FAME
NOMINATION FORM
2025



Nominee David "Dave" Martin Birth date 11/1/1953

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Softball Community where major accomplishments were achieved Cosmos

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 (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Check the Nomination Category:

- ☒ Superior Performance
- ☒ Meritorious Service
- ☒ Pioneers of Yesterday

Check all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Player	<input type="checkbox"/> Manager/Coach
<input type="checkbox"/> Promoter	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator
<input type="checkbox"/> Umpire	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Fastpitch
- ☒ Modified Pitch
- ☐ Slowpitch

Nominated by Wendy Holle Date of Nomination 7/10/2025
(If a relative, must have a seconding nomination by non-relative)

Address 1752 Adams St. SE City/State Hutchinson/MN Zip 55350

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (320) 894-5901

Email Address wendydholle@gmail.com

Seconding Nomination Name Harold Weseloh

- CONTINUED ON REVERSE/NEXT PAGE -

Nominee's Personal Stats _____

Dave's softball career included playing both fastpitch and modified softball. His career began in the 1960s and ended in the 2010s. He played the majority of his early career with the Cosmos Legion. After many of his teammates retired, he began playing with a new team. This team had many sponsors over the years, but the members remained consistent. A few of the team sponsors were Donny's Liquor Store, Cosmos Liquor Store, Bonita's, and Willmar City Sanitation. He played in leagues in Cosmos, Silver Lake, and New Germany.

Detailed statistics are not available due to the passage of time. Statistics included in this application and the attached letter have been verified to the following sources:

MN Softball History (www.softballhistorymn.com)

USA Softball (www.usasoftball.com)

Nominee's Personal Accomplishments _____

Dave was a quiet leader for all of his teams. He was respected and well-known by players, opponents and officials in the softball community.

In 2007, Dave received the title of MVP at the Class "B" Modified Pitch State Tournament at the age of 53.

Detailed records and statistics are not available due to the passage of time. Statistics included in this application and the attached letter have been verified to the following sources:

MN Softball History (www.softballhistorymn.com)

USA Softball (www.usasoftball.com)

Nominee's Team Accomplishments _____

Dave was a state tournament participant in 1994, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011.

Teams placed 1st in the Class B State Tournament in 2000 and 2007.

Teams placed 2nd in the Class A State Tournament in 2001.

Teams placed 1st in the Tier III State Tournament in 2008.

Detailed records are not available due to the passage of time. Statistics included in this application and the attached letter have been verified to the following sources:

MN Softball History (www.softballhistorymn.com)

USA Softball (www.usasoftball.com)

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

Wendy Holle
1752 Adams St. SE
Hutchinson, MN 55350
(320) 894-5901

July 10, 2025

Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame
118 12th Ave. N.
South St. Paul, MN 55075

Dear Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

Dave's passion for the game of softball defined countless summers of his life—and ours. Many summer week day evenings were spent as a family at the ballparks in Cosmos and Silver Lake. Weekends were spent at tournaments held during various town festivals; Cosmos, Silver Lake, Lester Prairie, and Delano to name a few. Over five decades, he played the game he loved, with a quiet intensity and steady presence that made him a valued teammate, a respected opponent, and a lifelong lover of the sport. His teams were known not only for their longevity, but for their competitiveness and camaraderie—both of which he deeply valued.

Though detailed statistics such as innings pitched, batting percentages, or total games played are not available, the following information was verified. Dave competed in at least eleven state tournaments. His teams earned:

- State Championship in the Men's B Modified Pitch Division (2000 and 2007)
- Second-Place in the Men's A Modified Pitch Division (2001)
- State Championship in the Men's Tier III Modified Pitch Division (2008)

In 2007, he was named MVP of the state tournament, a well-earned recognition for his leadership and outstanding play. He also competed in multiple national tournaments, a reflection of both his talent and his enduring commitment to the sport.

The memories and stories shared after his death in 2023 speak volumes. Former teammates and opponents alike remembered him for his calm demeanor, his consistency, and his quiet competitiveness—qualities that made him both a reliable player and an admired person.

Softball was more than just a sport to ^{David} it was a source of friendship, family, and joy. He was fortunate to share the field with close friends and family members and just as often faced them as competitors. The backdrop of red rock dust, summer sun, and the crack of the bat provided the setting for some of our family's most cherished memories.

To be able to write this letter on my father's behalf is an absolute honor. His legacy as a player, teammate, and man lives on in the stories, the friendships, and the love he had for the game. Thank you for considering him for this well-deserved recognition in the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame.

Please also find attached a letter of recommendation written by Harold Weseloh.



To: Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame
Re: Nomination of David Martin, Cosmos
Date: 3 July 2025

David "Buck" Martin started his modified-pitch softball career as a five-tool centerfielder. Buck could hit, hit with power, catch the ball, throw all the while relying on speed to steal bases and beat out bunts.

Buck's game eventually expanded to pitching and he became a stalwart on the pitching rubber as the modified-pitch pitching rules evolved. Buck's father, Rueben, was a pitcher in the 1960s in the Cosmos Softball League and Buck followed his father's cleat prints. Buck's accuracy and change-of-speed pitching fueled many 30-win seasons for the veteran hurler, who carried the bulk of the pitching load. As pitching rules changed, his fastball, drop, and curve became even more impressive.

As a hitter, Buck was unparalleled. Armed with a keen eye and compact swing, Buck hit with a keen efficiency to all fields—pity the third-base man who played too close to home plate. Buck always hit in the top third of the batting order for his teams and delivered big hits with a constant ease. Regrettably, statistics are elusive for Buck as the informal nature of record-keeping and the passage of time have limited what can be compiled.

Buck had a couple phases in his long career—spanning five decades—playing with the Cosmos Legion for 20 years when modified-pitch softball was at its zenith in Minnesota. Buck's pitching and hitting propelled the Legion to perennial top-five state finishes, including two times runners-up. With Buck on the rubber and in the left-hander's batter's box, the Legion qualified for, and competed in, four national tournaments: Austin, MN; Green Bay, WI; Burlington, NC; and Spokane, WA.

Adding to his legacy on the field, Buck was a huge supporter of softball in Cosmos, promoting and helping with the community's softball field renovation in the late 1990s. He was always among the volunteers with shovel or hammer in hand to work on the emerging new field. Buck was also instrumental with his many connections in the softball community in bringing out-of-town teams to Space Festival and Labor Day tournaments.

His five decades on the softball field are a testament to his talent, commitment and competitiveness for the game he loved: modified-pitch softball. Though he recently passed in 2023 at age 69, his impact on the game should be remembered and celebrated.

Yours Truly,

Harry Weseloh
President Cosmos Modified-pitch League
Manager Cosmos Legion Softball