

Fastball Player Extraordinaire

Marty Kernaghan

Acclaimed in his playing days as **“one of the best softball players in the world”**, Marty Kernaghan first saw that world in Grafton, Ontario in 1958. From very early on, Marty showed exceptional skills in his chosen sports of hockey, softball/fastball and baseball. In 1969, **at age 11, he won his first Ontario Amateur Softball Championship**, and was winner or finalist three times over the next eight years.

Also at eleven, Marty was an Ontario **Baseball** Association finalist and the **next year was part of the championship team**.

Awards in **hockey** were a little later coming. In 1976 his *Cobourg Cougar* team was a finalist in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association, and **in 1978 his team was the champions**.

That spring, then playing fastball with the *Cold Springs Cats*, Marty switched to the *Oshawa Tony's* team, playing as a right fielder. *Tony's* went on to the International Softball Congress tournament **where Marty hit 3 home runs**.

Marty Kernaghan got noticed!



The following year he played in Camrose, Alberta with a job offer as part of the incentive. The next few years saw his fastball career take him to Calgary and then on to the *Pencorp* team in Sioux City, Iowa.

The *Pencorp* team had their own airplane and used to send it to pick him up for games and tournaments. The pilot was also a flying instructor and Marty was offered the opportunity to learn to fly. He accepted and went on to become **a successful corporate licensed pilot**.

From 1984 through 1995 Marty played in 11 International Softball Conference World Tournaments as a shortstop or third baseman. He missed the 1994 season because of a broken leg!

Marty was also a member of championship teams for the American Softball Association and Softball Canada National Championships. In addition he was a member of Team Canada during the **1983 Pan Am Championship** as well as the **1992 International Softball Federation Men's World Championships, both times winning Gold Medals**.

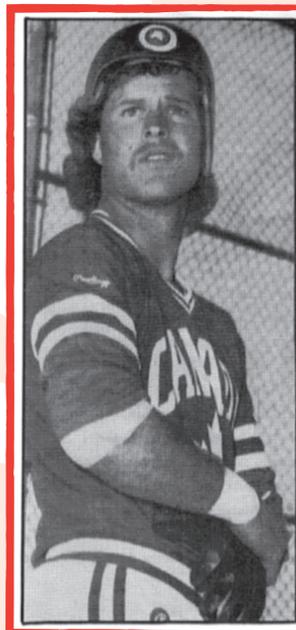
During his career Marty was **voted I.S.C. All World eight times** (first team 4 times, second team 4 times), and batted .361 getting 60 hits in 166 at-bats while scoring 31 times with 36 runs batted in.

In 2002 Marty Kernaghan was elected to the **International Softball Conference Fastball Hall of Fame**.

He currently resides and works in Florida, USA.



Memorabilia on Display at Sommerville's Sporting Goods



As a youngster, Marty once convinced his sister, Shelley, to grab a glove and catch for him. While working on his rise ball, one of Marty's pitches really rose and tipped off the top of Shelley's glove, hit her right between the eyes, broke her glasses in half and broke her nose. Unfortunately, Marty was not able to persuade Shelley to tape up her glasses, get a towel to mop up the blood (so mom would not find out!) and continue catching.

(ISC Hall of Fame)

B&W Photos courtesy of the Cobourg Star