

* Ben Smith
Mission, Ks. / Wy-Jon
KSBA Hall of Fame
Service – 1995

Ben was born in Bennington, Oklahoma and enlisted in the Army in 1940 and served until 1944. The highest rank of Staff Sergeant. While serving in WW II he received the “Purple Heart” and the “Bronze Star”. Ben and his wife Nell married in 1946 and lived in Oklahoma. They moved to Texas and then Missouri, before making Kansas City their home in 1953. He worked for Hallmark Cards for 32 years.

Ben began bowling in 1970 and has participated in two or three weekly leagues each year. His average is in the 170's, and a personal best game of 279 and a 679 series.

He has served as President of the Wy-Jon Bowling Association for two terms also President of the Kansas State Bowling Association for two terms. He also has been President of the Kansas Bowling Council. Ben coached Junior league bowling at Mission Bowl in Mission, Kansas for 12 years.

Ben's tournament appearances, include 24- Wy-Jon City Tournaments, 16- Kansas State Tournaments, and 15-A B C National Tournaments. Also, he has participated in other tournaments such as the Wichita Pro-Am, Overland Park Pro-Am, Kansas State Mixed and Senior's and the Greater Ozarks Open Tournament, in Springfield, Mo.