

Bowers' Corner & TSA Newsletter® & E-News®

AUGUST 30, 2005 ISSUE

Featuring **ADRON OWENS - "Player Profile & Stories"**

<http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com> <http://www.tableshuffleboard.org>

Adron Owens - "Player Profile & Stories"

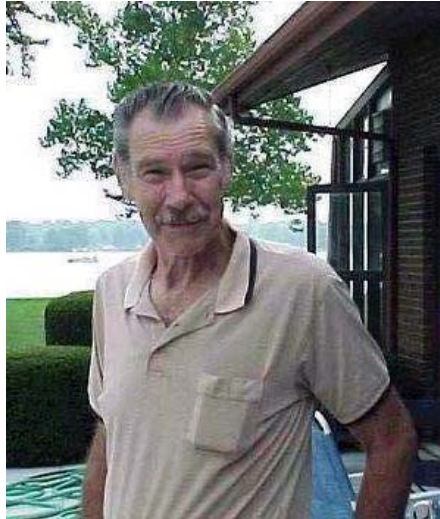
Adron Owens of North Webster, IN (born October 1, 1938 - 66 years young now), shot his first puck at 20 years old in leagues, tournaments, and just for fun. His first team was at the *Grill* (now called *Rex's*) where the only other player from that team that Adron still knows of is Claud Johnson. Then he was on a team at *Jess and Janes* in Bourbon (now called *Journeys End*) where he remembers playing with Doc Slaybaugh, Charlie Thompson and the older Bourbon guys.

Adron has also been an Indiana league player at other places, including Warsaw's *Holiday Lanes*, *VFW*, *Eagles*, and *Sparkies* and at North Webster's *Lucky's Tavern* and Leesburg's *The Keg*.

The tournament that he has traveled the most miles to is the SW Open in Del City, Oklahoma. He would like to play there at least one more time, health conditions permitting.

Adron is now having a severe struggle with cancer and treatments, but his spirits are high. He hasn't been able to play much shuffleboard over the past year, but his loving wife (Brenda), his love of shuffleboard news and love of bluegrass music helps him through these very difficult times. He loves to keep in touch with his extended shuffleboard family and looks forward to hearing from the shuffleboard community. Adron and his wife Brenda were long-time supporters of the prior *The Board Talk* and they both greatly miss getting the printed issue each month. They would sit down together and read their *The Board Talk* subscription from beginning to end several times over. They now look forward to getting the Bowers' Corner & TSA E-Newsletters, even though it does not, at this time, offer a printed/mailed issue.

Adron first found out he was sick when he started having breathing and chocking problems at a Bluegrass Festival last August. After testing and surgery for cancer on the right lung, left neck and throat area, he began chemo and radiation which ended January 5, 2005. At his 2 month checkup, the doctors found more problems in the chest area and biopsies revealed it was in the medistal area of the chest and was non-operable. He then went into an experimental program testing chemo pills, but after taking 6 daily chemo pills for 6 weeks, it was found to be rapidly spreading and had gone to the left lung (very small spot) and the adrenal glands. Two weeks later, he was admitted to the hospital for severe back pain, infection and possible pneumonia. Testing showed cancer had spread to the bones in the spine and rib. Not much can be done except pain control and lots of prayers. Through all of this, Adron has stayed strong and in control. Many prayers are going out to Adron, Brenda, and their family.



"Adron Shuffleboard Stories" by Brenda Owens (Adron's wife)...

Adron has always bragged to everyone how when we first met, "I was just a free hand shooter". I had learned free hand from Charlie Thompson at the *Bourbon Legion* when I worked there. He would always be after me if he walked in and I wasn't busy and not on a board or Wally Dan and Mike Koontz would be after me to throw my freehand pucks.

Well, when Adron and I started playing together (one of our first dates) he started teaching me left and right hand shots. After I caught on and began using all the shots, he started bragging and saying he had taught me to use both hands but would never let me get away from my freehand. When I would beat him everyone including himself

would say maybe he taught me too good!!!



And then there was the time when we were partners at *Lucky's Tavern* for a tournament and Pabst Blue Ribbon was starting to help him express himself (if you know what I mean) when he would shoot his end and then go sit in the middle of board and started giving hand signs - never saying a word just flapping his hands and arms around. Well after a few frames of that hand action, I had it and told him "if you don't quit directing traffic, I will never play with you again". He wouldn't talk to me the rest of the game, but it all worked out okay when we took 2nd place. But, to this day, everyone reminds him not to direct traffic for Brenda! He just laughs and says "I'll never live that down, will I?"

One of the tournaments Adron would not miss is the Hawk Eye Memorial on New Years Day. In fact, so far, that is the only

(Adron Owens-Player Profile... Con't. page 2)

Bowers' Corner & TSA Newsletter® & E-News®

AUGUST 30, 2005 ISSUE -- Page 2

<http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com> <http://www.tableshuffleboard.org>

(Adron Owens-Player Profile... Con't. from page 1)

tournament he has got to play in this year and Brian Collins and Adron came in 1st place. Adron is hoping to get stronger and play again. I hope his dream can come true.

We took Adron to a Bluegrass Festival on August 1, 2005. His best friend took the seats out of the van and we put his mattress in the back and then parked where he could lay down and listen to the bands play, but he was able to mostly sit up. And then 4 of his friends camped right next to us and they played and picked for him till 4:30 in the morning. It was neat but sad. His two loves his whole life have been bluegrass and shuffleboard. He was 20 when he threw his first puck and he's 66 now.

Adron always likes to tell the younger players about how he and Claude Johnson (Mikes Dad) taught Mike how to throw his first puck and look at him now. Mike always adds yah but I developed my own style- and Adron and Claude both laugh and smile and say thats for sure!!! Neither one of them would be caught running down the side of the board...They would fall down!!!

Some of his best times was when he would draw Terry Dowell, Larry Brown, or Brian Collins as a partner. He always laughs and says "Oh poor them!", but he would play his heart out and with their help they came out good. He would always listen so close to what Brian was coaching in league and then get up and do it his -- ADRONS way!!!

While back he had me get out all the old The Board Talk issues and go through them and get out any issue that mentioned him. We sure do miss The Board Talk --- we would always sit on the couch and read it page for page together.

Through all of this, Adron has stayed so strong and in control. When he wanted to go and prearrange his funeral and pick out our plots at the cemetery, I realized then just how strong and really ready he is for what ever comes our way. I can't say that I'm that strong. I'm trying to be !!! Then with the savings being all gone and now I've had to cut my working to just 3 hours a day, it's hitting me like a brick --- but Adron sees the good in it , being I'm here when he goes to sleep and when he wakes up; I'm here except from 3:30-6:30 a.m. (I cut back on my work hours to 3 hours while he is asleep); and then he says he likes it that he spends all awake hours with me here (Ha ol lucky him).

He jokes about it as "Hey we have no money, but we sure have each other!". All of this is time I will treasure forever. Every day we listen to his bluegrass music and his gospel collection (and that is one expense I will never cut out). I try to get him a new Bluegrass CD every few weeks. He even sleeps with the satellite music on.



For those wishing to send Adron a card or letter of support, he would love to hear from you: (contact info. follows...)

Adron B. Owens (wife-Brenda Owens)
9529 E. Ponderosa Dr. (camper # 12)
North Webster, IN 46555
Phone: 574-834-7712
E-mail: brenda-owens05@hotmail.com

State #07 Reminders!

September 22-24

8th Annual Missouri HOF Tournament
(3 Events & Rich Steger of STL MO Induction)
Eagles Lodge #3911, Houston, Missouri

Sept. 30-Oct. 2

Indiana Hall of Fame (L. Brown & T. Dowell)
(Multi-Event & 2 HOF Inductions)
American Legion #424, Bourbon, Indiana

(More Shuffleboard News... Con't. page 3)

To View All Tournament Events (US & CAN) for August & September 2005 and the annual "2005-2006 Upcoming Events" Calendar (Click Below Link):

http://www.tableshuffleboard.org/Latest_Calendar.htm

To View All Flyers Submitted, thusfar, for August 2005 - March 2006 "Upcoming Events (US & Canada)":

http://www.shuffleboardcorner.com/Bowers-TSA_Newsletter_August19_2005_flyers.pdf