

HARLEY PARNELL HISNER

November 6, 1926 - March 20, 2015



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BIOGRAPHY

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Harley Parnell Hisner was born on Friday, March 20, at Park Place As a young man, he moved to the town of Maples, Indiana. Nelson and his family lived in the town of Maples, Indiana. He lived in the town of Maples, Indiana until grade school in 1945. The work on the farm made Parnell and his brothers strong, but he was not a success. As Parnell often said, the fitness center in those days; doing the workout enough! After high school, he was drafted into the military during World War II. While stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison he met and fell in love with Anna B. Cain; they were married on January 4, 1948. They celebrated their sixty-fourth anniversary before Anna died in 2013.

Parnell had signed a baseball contract with the Boston Red Sox in 1945 as a pitcher, but his pro debut was put on hold during this time in the army. After his discharge, he and Anna embarked on a professional baseball odyssey that took them all over the country during the seven years Parnell spent in the Boston organization. The highlight of his pro career was the game he pitched for the Red Sox against the New York Yankees in Yankee Stadium in 1951.

After Leaving pro baseball, Parnell Played semi-pro and amateur baseball in the Fort Wayne area for many years, and in 1976 he was elected to the Northeast Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame. He worked 41 years as a machinist for Rea Magnet Wire until his retirement in 1987. Later he worked part-time for Maples Ag concept and Commercial Warehouse. He was a member of Maples United Methodist Church, the Major League Baseball Players



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FACTS

Born: November 6, 1926

Death: March 20, 2015

GUESTBOOK

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Alumni Association, the American Legion Post #420 (Monroeville), and the Northeast Indiana Baseball Association.

Surviving are his daughters, Deborah A. (Gary) Spry of Monroeville and Beverly J. Hoffman of Hoagland; son, Randy P. (Cheryl) Hisner of Decatur; eight grandchildren, Angela Spry, Joshua (Jennifer) Gibson, Trisha Spry, Erik (Jessica) Hisner, Ashley (Brian) Brames, Ryan Hisner, Shane Hisner, and Gavin Hisner; and seven great-grandchildren, Lily Brames, Taylor Davis-Gibson, Emmett Gibson, Kaydence Thompson, Blakeley Hisner, Evelyn Gibson, and Brayden Hisner.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann; sister, Marvine; three grandchildren, Adam Gibson in 1995, John Gibson in infancy, and Jennifer Spry in infancy; and three brothers, Rowland, Gerald, and Gordon.

The two loves of Parnell's life were his family and baseball. Anna, whom Parnell called his "biggest fan and best friend," shared those loves. They enjoyed many years of watching their son and grandchildren play baseball and softball. They also enjoyed spreading their love of the Red Sox to the entire family, a love that reached a peak in 2012 when the Red Sox invited all of their former players to the centennial celebration of Fenway Park. When he walked onto the field at Fenway that day, it was one of his and his family's proudest moments.

Service is 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 26, 2015 at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Jacobs Chapel, Monroeville, with visitation one hour prior. Visitation also from 2-4 and 5-8p.m. Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at the funeral home. Burial in I.O.O.F. Cemetery, New Haven.

Preferred memorials to Maples United Methodist Church or Northeast Indiana Baseball Association. For complete obituary information and to sign the online guestbook, please visit www.zwickjahn.com