

Rick McKee

Men's Slow-Pitch Softball

Being willing and able to serve your country is the ultimate honor. But to do that and still play the game you love, that's the proverbial icing on the cake. That's what Rick McKee got to do while serving in the U.S. Army.

In the late 1980s, Rick proudly served and, while with the Army, he played for the Fort Campbell Post team and won the base championship. Because of his performance, Rick was named to the highly coveted All-Army Softball Team. All this set up a return to the diamond in Memphis, where he continues to excel today.

Rick first joined Trippett Insurance — playing shortstop — and led that squad to back-to-back Bartlett and Memphis City championships. A year later, Rick began playing with Lawler's Army and competed in benefit games over the next 8 years. The team was featured on Lawler's television show to promote its schedule around the Mid-South. The team traveled 2-to-3 hours to play other all-star teams in benefit games. At those games, Lawler's Army players were celebrities, signing autographs and taking photos with fans in attendance.

Rick's career included being recruited by many top teams in the Memphis area; teams like Spoilers, Pepsi, Sprite Sox, Team Memphis, Wobblers, Sox, Newhouse and Wallbangers. While competing in tournaments across the country with these teams, Rick earned multiple tournament MVP accolades, highest batting average awards and all-tournament team honors.

Rick continued his career after he turned 50; however, neither his level of play nor the competition dropped off. Rick has played solely with Monster Softball, and the team has played in the 50 Major, 55 Major, 55 Major Plus and 60 Major Plus divisions. Monster Softball, with Rick as a pivotal player, has won 8 league championships, 3 SSUSA national championships and consecutive ISSA World Championships. Rick has earned more than 10 all-tournament team honors/MVP awards. In addition, he has a batting average better than .700 over his four-decade career.

Rick's softball-playing career began before his time in the service. His career started in 1983 when he played both fast-pitch and slow-pitch softball. After some time, Rick was recruited to join several competitive teams, including Team Memphis. Rick helped those squads win multiple local, regional and national championships. Some of the titles included Memphis Metro, Memphis City, Bartlett City, ASA Nationals, ISA Nationals and NSA Nationals.

Please welcome to the Hall of Fame, for men's slow-pitch softball — Rick McKee.