

## **Billy Balok**

- Billy is the only player to have a memorial in his honor placed at the Normain ball park by the city of Mishawaka
- A regular in semi-pro baseball and later slow-pitch softball, Billy always sought opportunities to play, coach or teach the game that he loved
- The great basketball legendary coach, John Wooden, was Bill's baseball coach at South Bend Central High School
- Diminutive but feisty, Billy played senior softball until just three weeks before he passed away from cancer
- A second-baseman late in his career, Billy competed fiercely "between the lines" but was known to help younger players and often shared the league history through his stories and the newspaper articles that he meticulously kept