

Honorary Opening Pitch

Richard "Dick" Mingo



Richard (Dick) Mingo is recognized today for his dedicated service to his country and for his contributions to amateur baseball in Minnesota. Dick graduated from Minneapolis West High School in 1948, and went on to attend Hamline University where he starred on the baseball team. Dick received his Masters degree from St. Mary's University. Dick served in the United States Army 1952-1954 with the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion and was wounded in 1953. After his military service, Dick pursued a career as a teacher and coach. Teaching in the classroom and on the field have always been Dick's passions; as he did both for over 25 years. One of Dick's proudest accomplishments was founding the Minnesota Lion's All-Star Tournament in 1974. Mr. Mingo continued managing the All-Star series for 25 years which helped to generate over \$100,000 for the Children's Eye Clinic at the University of Minnesota. The tournament he founded is currently the "Play Ball" High School All-Star Tournament. Dick's impact on Minnesota amateur baseball has been recognized by the number of honors he has received: Charter member of the Minnesota High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, Waconia Town Ball Hall of Fame, Dick Siebert Award, Helen Keller Award (MN Lions) and Northwest Umpires Sportsman of the Year.

Dick also conducted youth clinics for the Minnesota Twins throughout the Upper Midwest for 25 years, retiring last year. Dick and his wife of 61 years, Rosemary, live in Chanhassen and have been active members of the Chanhassen American Legion Post 580 for more than 60 years.

We are honored to have Dick throw out the first pitch of the tournament. We also want to thank him for his service to his country and contributions to Minnesota Amateur Baseball.