

Kirk “Killer” Campbell



Softball has been a way of life for the Campbell family.

He and his wife, Rachele played on the numerous state championship Wahl Optical Co-Ed teams and she was a fixture at his Wahl Optical men's games. Their three girls, Jessica, Felicia and Heather began attending games right after they were born.

Kirk started playing softball in 1977 with his Campbell Insurance sponsored softball team in Council Bluffs. In about 1979, Bob Wahl asked Kirk to join the Wahl Optical team.

For the next 25 years, he was the leadoff hitter and played left field. While detailed team records weren't kept, Bob Wahl said, "I know Kirk hit .750 almost every year."

Campbell said that for years, he played five nights a week, plus tournaments most every weekend. Sometimes he played a tournament in Omaha, and then drove to finish another tournament somewhere else.

"I was almost always the leadoff hitter," Campbell said, "not necessarily because I was the best hitter, but because I learned to not hit homeruns." Campbell, who just turned 50, is now playing on a 50+ team comprised of players from Sioux City and Des Moines.

"Without the love and support of my wife and kids," Campbell said, "I would never had been able to play softball for as long as I have."