

***Joyce Hartness Provides Story and Photo of "Little Ray" Hartness, Inducted into TSA Hall Of Fame - December 1998!***



**IN MEMORY OF "LITTLE RAY" HARTNESS  
February 13, 1930 - April 1, 1997**

Ray was born on February 13, 1930, in Pawhuska, Oklahoma to Lois Lasarge and Arron K. Hartness... They lived in Oklahoma all of Ray's young life. Ray attended the Chillico Indian Boarding School where he completed the 2nd through the 12th grades. Ray finished the trade of being a house painter. After finishing school, he married Louise and they had four children. This is about the time he started playing shuffleboard. Ray became one of the best shuffleboard players in the United States. The most important thing to Ray at the time was shuffleboard. Ray's marriage to Louise ended in divorce and I met Ray in March 1959. It was love at first sight for both of us. We later married and had five children. So, we had nine children all together. Ray was a wonderful husband and father. We moved to Houston, Texas in August of 1962. Ray was playing shuffleboard all the time we were together. He was the best shuffleboard

player in the United States at the time. He played the most with his friend, Rod Cameron. Rod and Ray were always taking trips together to find a shuffleboard game. Rod was not only a best friend to Ray, but Rod was like a brother to him. Ray played with the best of players: Rod Cameron, Billy Mays, Harvey Kidd, Bill Brady, Joe Spratt, just to name a few. Ray was in the Painters Local #130 in Houston, Texas for 30 years and retired in 1993. We moved to Hominy, Oklahoma because of Ray's health. Ray went to the doctors at the Indian Health Clinics and was told he had a kidney disease and needed to be on dialysis. He was on dialysis for two and a half years before he passed away on April 1, 1997. Ray's birthday was yesterday [February 13th] and he would have been 71 years old. I am very proud that Ray was put into the TSA Hall of Fame. He was one of the best players. I know if there is a shuffleboard in heaven, Ray will be there playing. So, all of you shuffleboard players out there better practice up because Ray will be on his game!  
**-- By: Joyce Hartness**

*EDITOR NOTE: "Little Ray" Hartness and his long time friend, Rod Cameron, were inducted into the Hall of Fame in December 1998 during the Houston Holiday Open 1998 tournament. Rod accepted the awards for both as Ray passed away in 1997 before the awards were presented.*

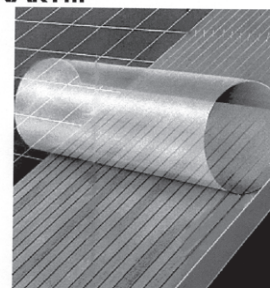
*(TSA News Continued on Page 32)*

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