Hometowns of Iowa’s Major Leaguers

MORE THAN 200 IOWA MEN have attained the ultimate goal of playing in the major leagues. Six are honored in baseball’s Hall of Fame; others played only a few games, a few innings, or even less—as the 19th-century expression put it, “they stopped in for a cup of coffee.” Iowa’s major leaguers have come from three-quarters of our counties, from small towns like Pisgah and Cascade, and from larger cities. Some of their hometowns no longer exist (such as Clay’s Grove and Knowlton); some have fewer than 200 citizens. Bancroft, Lost Nation, Neola, and Norway—all with populations below 1,000—each produced two or more major leaguers.

Iowa baseball historian Jerry Clark describes it well: “The Iowans who played major league baseball represent a broad cross-section... Boys from both rural and urban Iowa honed their talents on hometown diamonds and worked up to the major league fields. For some reason, a good many of these Iowa boys found their niche on the pitching mound. Some were stars; others were journeymen ballplayers filling in where they could. For some, baseball was a short interlude in their lives; others made a lifelong career of playing, coaching, umpiring, or scouting. Many came back to Iowa and took up jobs as farmers, laborers, businessmen and teachers. Some became more famous in other fields of endeavor... All had their day in the sun.”

Their hometowns appear below (although the actual birthplace may have been a different Iowa town). —by John Liepa

Ackley: Arthur Reinhart
Algona: William Salsbury, David Saudstad, George Stueland
Ames: Stephen Dreyer, Robert Harris, Billy Sunday
Ankeny: Todd Sears
Atlantic: Rick Heiserman
Aurora: Wesley Siglin
Bancroft: Joseph Hatten, Denis Menke
Bellevue: Marvin Felderman
Blanchard: Don Ragan
Bloomfield: John Rawlings
Boone: Charles Brown, Gerald McNertney
Breda: Verle Tiefenthaler
Brighton: Louis Nordyke
Burlington: James Dunegan, Jack Hamilton, Steve Macko, Rodney Nichols, James Panther, Matt Perisho
Carroll: Kenneth Henderson
Cascade: Urban Faber
Cedar Falls: Matthew Wagner
Cedar Rapids: Calvin Eldred, Benjamin Ford, Nate Frese, William Hoffer, Wes Obermueller, Richard Rozek, Shawn Sedlacek, Cy Slapnicka, Gregory Thayer, John Wishan, Earl Whitehill
Charles City: Vivian Lindaman
Cherokee: Stephen Meister, Clarion: Lee Hardley
Clay’s Grove: Samuel Carroll
Clémons: Verne James Clémons
Clinton: Thomas Hilgendorf
Coalville: James Grant, Clifford Knox
Conway: Lyndon Welday
Coon Rapids: Jay King Towne
Council Bluffs: Stanley Bahnson, Jonathan Lieber
Creston: Harold Smith
Croton: Otto Saltzgaver
Danbury: Raymond Haley
Davenport: Eugene Baker, Michael Busch, Michael Butcher, Josh D. Kroeger, Adolph Lorenzen, Thomas Lunsford, Scott Rose, Thomas Walsh, Mitch Wylie
Des Moines: Todd Belitz, Casey Blake, Ed Courtine, Thomas Dreess, Jerry Haisenton, James W. Holmes, Joseph Magrane, Mike Mahoney, Richard Marville, Hermas McFarland, Benjamin Sampson, Kevin Tapani
De Witt: Danny Moeller
Donnellson: Alfred Lawson
Dorchester: Nathaniel Kellogg
Dubuque: Charles Buelow, Frederick Glade, Joseph Hoeinner, Edward Keas, William McWilliams, Kevin Rhomberg
Elkader: John Dittmer
Ely: Louvain Fear
Farnhamville: Frederick Stanley
Forest City: Luther Owens
Barnes
Fort Dodge: Louis Fiene, Eugene Ford, James Long, William Metzg, Michael Schweke, Kevin Wickander
Foster: Roy Wilson
George: Robert Locker
Gilden: Albert Epperly
Graettinger: Guilford Paulsen
Grundy Center: Robert Hasbrook
Hamburg: Carl Stimson
Harper: Philip Statter
Holstein: Foster Edwards, Wilbur韦尔
Humboldt: P. Thompson
Ioda Grove: Harry Eells, George Piggars
Indiana: Casey Blake
Iowa City: Craig Colbert, Leo Meyer
Jesup: William Wagner
Keokuk: Jeremiah Harrington, Rollin Lutz
Kingsley: Harry Gaspar
Knowlton: Clarence Yaryan
Laona: David G. Baker
Lamoni: Edward Watt
Laurens: Adrian Lynch
Lawton: Arnold Anderson
Le Grand: John Coombs
Le Mars: Walter Marber
Linn Grove: Richard Grapentin
Logan: Harold McKain
Lost Nation: James McDonald, George Stone
Lowden: Frederick Schmit
Mallard: Frank Mulrooney
Manchester: Walter McCrede
Marengo: Paul Hinrichs
Marshalltown: Adrian Anson, Maurice Kent, Samuel B. Sager
Mason City: Donald Eddy, Timothy Laudner, Ronald Miller, Frank Secory
Maxwell: Clyde Southwick
Middle Amana: William Zuber
Milton-Wayne McLeland
Monticello: James Crabb
Morrison: Calvin McKay
Muscatine: Albert Gould
Neola: Jerome Downs, James Morgan
New Hampton: Duane Josephson
Newton: Nate Teut
North English: Mace Brown
Norway: Michael Boddicker, Bruce Kimm, Harold Trosky
Oakland: Leo Bogen
Oelwein: Richard Woodson
Orient: Clarence Yance
Osage: Robert Brusch, Jesse Duryea
Ottumwa: Robert Lee, Henry Ostdiek, Jacob Weinert
Parkerburg: Roy Luebbe
Parnell: Edward Gharity
Paulina: Arthur Ewald
Pella: Kory DeHann
Perry: George Tomer
Peterson: Roscoe Holm
Pigah: Loren Rolland Babe
Pocahontas: Lawrence Bittner
Popejoy: Charles Frisbee
Preston: Robert Oldis
Red Oak: Richard Kenworthy
Remsen: Joseph Lotz, John Niggeling
Riverside: Vance McIlree
Sac City: Paul Zahniser
Salix: Donald Black
Schleswig: Edward Piggars
Shenandoah: Milo Marshall
Sioux City: David J. Ban-croft, David Edler, Richard Green, Robert Knoopp, Robert Matcisk, Donald Wengert
Smithfield: George Clark
Storm Lake: George Decker
Story City: Henry Severid
Struble: Arthur John Summer: Les Tiedje
Toledo: Leonard Cole
Van Meter: Bob Feller
Victor: Jack Collum
Villisca: Lynn King
Vincent: Edmund Miller
Waukee: Harold Manders
Waverly: Andy Hinch
West Des Moines: Fred Clarke
Winterport: Fred Clarke
Wyoming: Emil Leveson
Unknown Iowa hometown: George Crosby, Charlie Hodnett

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