



Rodney Rawlinson

Rodney Rawlinson was another one of the great archers that came out of Texas in the 1980's. Rodney shot in the very competitive Men's Freestyle Limited division and was a dominant force at every level he shot including at National's. Between 1980 and 1989, Rodney won 11 Texas State Championships, 8 Sectional Championships, and 3 National Championships. He won Indoor Nationals in 1982, 1984, and 1986; he probably would have won in 1983 and 1985 but could not make the tournament due to his work schedule. He earned 68 points on the TFAA Hall of Fame score card in just 10 years shooting competitive archery. Linda and I were very close friends to Rodney and Peggy during those years and we shot a lot together especially indoors. Rodney preferred indoor shooting compared to outdoor due to his job being outdoors in the heat and mosquitos.

I moved to Houston in late 1983 and practiced with Rodney 6 nights a week at Viking Archery in Houston getting ready for the 1984 Indoor Nationals in Omaha, Nebraska. We both won our Divisions that year and set new National Records making that a special tournament. I remember one night when we were shooting a practice round, Rodney hung his quiver on the bow rack to make an emergency bathroom trip after a spicy Mexican food dinner. I heated up the point on his 2213 arrow and stuffed a bunch of toothpicks in his shaft and got it back together and in his quiver right before he got back. It was his #1 arrow and he shot it low the next round. He put it in the trash can and said, "I shot that arrow better than that" and we all laughed before I told him why he shot it low. He was that good!!!!!! He regularly shot perfect 300 scores indoor with 50+ X's.

We traveled to hundreds of tournaments together during those years and Rodney always made time for the kids and helped several young archers get started. He always acted with the highest level of integrity, and I am blessed to have Rodney as a good friend. I will say it again: Rodney was one of the great archers out of Texas in the 1980's.

HOF Members: I am sure you will agree with me that Rodney should have been inducted into the TFAA HOF before now and he deserves to join all of us in this honor.