

## Triplett in IL Hall of Fame

Written by Mike Kelly  
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The late Coaker Triplett, who was born and raised in Boone, NC, was recently inducted into the International League Hall of Fame

An Appalachian State University stand out, Triplett, a member of the ASU Hall of Fame (he was inducted in 1976), was inducted in the International League Hall of Fame in Charlotte on June 26. Triplett, who never batted below .300 in his professional career at the minor-league level, was honored before the Charlotte Knights (the Triple A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox) played the Buffalo Bisons in Fort Mill, SC.

Triplett played for the Bisons for six seasons and even managed the team when then-manager Specs Toporcer lost his eyesight in 1949. He guided Buffalo (now the Triple A affiliate of the Cleveland Indians) to a fourth-place finish that season and a berth in the Governors' Cup playoffs.

Triplett is tied for tenth all-time in home runs (with 69) and he is fifth all-time in runs-batted-in (with 359) with the Bisons organization. He retired from professional baseball in 1952.

He played for three major league teams during World War II--the Chicago Cubs, the St. Louis Cardinals and the Philadelphia Phillies. He was fourth in the National League with 15 home runs in 1943.

His son, King Triplett, was on hand to accept the award. Triplett is also a member of the Buffalo Baseball Hall of Fame, the ASU Hall of Fame, and the Watauga County Sports Hall of Fame.