Harris Headed to Hall of Fame

By Bob Zyontz

You know you've made your mark when you're instantly recognized and referred to by one name. The world has Messi, Madonna, Cher, Sting, Magic, Shakira, and Bono. The Monroe Senior Softball League has "Bobby".

Bobby Harris has been a popular fixture in Monroe Township for the past 10 years, especially among the many residents who play sports. A master organizer, Bobby has taken the lead in creating and managing several pivotal activities here.

He was the driving force behind the creation, launch, and management of both the Monroe Senior Softball League (MSSL), in 2023, where he served as both a player and the league's first Commissioner, and the Monroe Township Intra-Community Pickleball League in 2024, where he also took on the Commissioner's role and competed as a player.

Before Bobby moved to Regency with his wife Marcy in 2016, he had been a long-time resident of Marlboro Township. If you haven't noticed by now, Bobby is a passionate jock with a soft spot for softball. His affinity for the sport saw him play and manage teams in the Marlboro Men's Softball League (MMSL) for 24 years before stepping away in 2021.

As a result of his contributions, leadership, and dedication, the MMSL is honoring Bobby by inducting him into their player Hall of Fame at a special dinner to be held at the Palms Plaza in Matawan, New Jersey on November 19, 2026.

His Marlboro softball journey began in 1996 when his friend Leo Friedlich, who eventually moved to Regency at Monroe as well, convinced him to join. He was hesitant at first because he wanted to stay in more competitive leagues, but over dinner, Leo sketched everything out on a cocktail napkin and persuaded Bobby to give it a shot.

After five years as a player, he became a captain for the next 19 years. In an 18-team league where winning is tough, Bobby managed to win two championships and reach two other finals. Above all, he knew that the best part of the league was the lifelong friendships that were formed.

When he "retired" from Marlboro softball in 2021, the League honored him with their inaugural Legacy Award named after a long-time Commissioner who passed away that year. Bobby considered it a true honor and a great way to end his Marlboro playing days.

Who knew that a year later he would start the MSSL, which was modeled in part after Marlboro. Since the Monroe Township Recreation Department allows the MSSL to register 20 percent of its players from outside the Township, he was able to bring several former Marlboro softballers into the MSSL in 2025 including Noel Gluck, a star pitcher during his baseball playing days at Rutgers. It should be noted that Noel will also be inducted into the MMSL Hall of Fame along with Bobby – the only two former players to be so honored in 2026.

Bobby is grateful to the Marlboro Men’s Softball League for inducting a once-reluctant signee into their Hall of Fame and appreciates the recognition. High fives and fist bumps to Bobby Harris for a well-deserved honor.



[Caption]

Monroe Senior Softball League founder and former Commissioner Bobby Harris standing on the left conferring with current Commissioner Bob Zyontz during league play in May 2026. Photo by Tom Cullen.