Gary Zapzalka

Gary Zapzalka was born on April 14, 1961 in Little Falls. He is the oldest of 10 children and was raised by his great parents Arthur and Genevieve Zapzalka on a farm near Sobieski.

Gary attended Little Falls Community High School where he graduated in 1979. He enjoyed success in FFA and also playing baseball for the Flyers. His favorite memory is winning the State Baseball Championship game vs Minnetonka his senior year. His team came back from a 4-0 deficit in the bottom of the last inning to beat Minnetonka 5-4 on a successful suicide squeeze bunt.

Gary met the “Love of his Life” (Linda Kierzek) after a softball game in Holdingford. They were married on November 24, 1984 in St. Wendel. They have three lovely daughters - Amber, Kendra & Dani.

Upon moving to Holdingford in 1986 Gary began his 25 year stint as a Director on the Husker Athletic Booster Club. During his time on the Booster Club Gary was very involved and instrumental in many projects. Among them:

* Assisted Ron Hylla with the Football Field/Track Renovation
* Initiated the Husker Gymnasium Renovation
* Started the Fall Steak Fry
* Helped start the Spring Booster Club/American Legion Steak Fry

Gary very much enjoyed being involved in the Booster Club and helping improve the quality of the Husker athletes experience. Gary really worked well with Booster Club President, Ron Hylla to make the “Husker” experience better for all.

Gary had a passion for baseball. He played and managed teams for over 25 years in the Victory League. In 1997 Gary started the JO Fastpitch Program in Holdingford. He wanted to improve the Fastpitch Program for his 3 daughters coming up. He and Terry Sunde coached the team for six years before turning the program over. The highlight was taking the new program to a 4th place finish in the State Tournament. The program is still going today.

Gary also along with his wife Linda saw a need to improve the Elementary Girls Basketball Program. They started competitive basketball for grades 3-6. Gary and Linda ran the program for 12 years. They coached two of their daughters’ teams to 2nd place finishes in the Pacesetter State Tournaments. They also started the Husker Girls Elementary Tournament as a way to make money for the program. Both the tournament and the program are still going strong today thanks to Gary and Linda.

Gary has been the “Voice of the Huskers” for many years. He began working at the scorers table for Volleyball and Boys and Girls Basketball in 2004. He also started announcing at the Husker Football Games at this time. Gary said he really enjoys the ability to interact with the athletes.