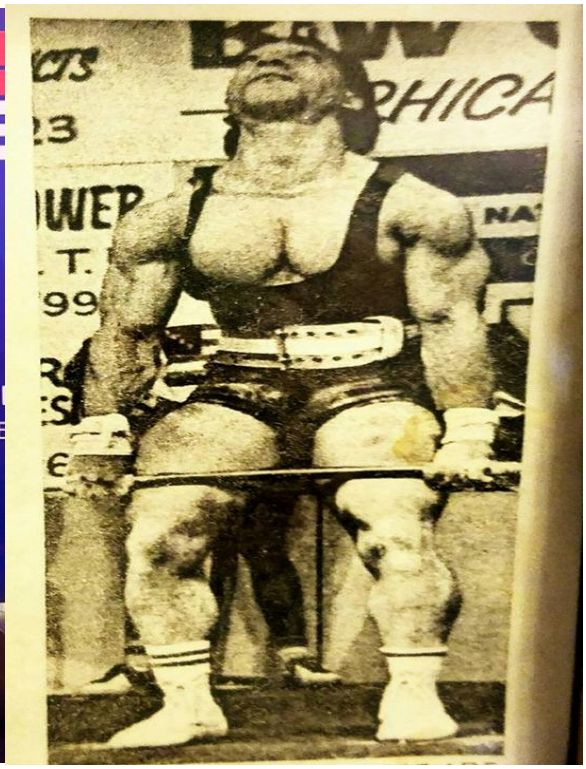


Men's Hall of Fame 2024 – Martin Beavers

Background & History
Born: Fukuoka, Japan
Current Residence: Federal Way, Washington
Began Powerlifting: 1981
Weight Class: 165 (majority of career), 181 (3 meets)
High School: Mount Tahoma (Tacoma, Washington)
College: University Of Puget Sound

Martin dedicated his USA Powerlifting Hall Of Fame Induction to his great friend the late Willie Austin. Willie was the most giving, most caring, most supportive, and most positive individual ever who helped out and supported everyone. Martin coached the Pacific Powerlifters Team with Willie, trained with him until he retired from competitive powerlifting, traveled to many meets, hung out, went out on many double & group dates and he just totally enjoyed their great friendship they had. Rest In Peace Willie, you are very much missed and Loved by all of us!!

Growing up Martin was always athletic and played a variety of sports from baseball, basketball, wrestling, football, track & field and bowling. Martin started training with weights when he was in 10th grade in high school and everywhere he trained whether it was at the school weight room, later on in college and at the McChord AFB gym people would always tell him that he was really strong, especially for his bodyweight. When Martin was 19 years old he had a couple military officers at the gym bring him an entry form for an upcoming powerlifting meet at Fort Lewis Army Post and encouraged him to enter and told him that he would do really good and would win. So, Martin entered the meet and in his first meet weighing 155 pounds he Squated 480, Benched 340, Deadlifted 500

and totaled 1320. He not only took 1st place in his weight class but went on to win the overall best lifter of the entire meet award. From that point, Martin was hooked on powerlifting and continued to train and improve his lifts and in his first couple of years of powerlifting won the Northwest Regionals, Washington State and West Coast Championship. He then went on to win his first Nationals in 1984 winning the Northwestern USA National championship open division and the Las Vegas USA National Bench Press Championship open division.

Martin was one of the most decorated lifters in the 1980's and 1990's. Martin went on to win several World championships in the open division, several USA National Championships in the open division and several best lifter awards at the World and USA championships. He was the first ADFPA/USAPL 75 kilo (165 class) lifter to break the 800 kilo (1763.7 pound) barrier when he totaled 800.6 kilos (1765 pounds). He was also selected to the USA Powerlifting Silver Anniversary Team Top 25 All-Time Greatest Drug-Free Lifters. The selection was based on the top 25 lifters who made the biggest impact at the Nationals and in the history of the USAPL/ADFPA.

Martin also promoted several meets including the West Coast Championships, Northwest Regional Championship, Washington State Championship and the 1998 USA Women's Nationals. He was also the Co-Founder and Coach along with the late Willie Austin of the Pacific Powerlifters. The Pacific Powerlifters was a large group of lifters who trained at the Gateway Athletic Club in Seattle Washington and went on to win 4 straight USA National Women's Team title and 2 straight USA National Masters Team titles.

Here is some feedback and quotes received from other lifters about Martin Beavers:

- Feedback from the USA Powerlifting President Larry Maile from his 2009 Women's Hall Of Fame Induction BIO about Martin:
  - **Larry said in terms of competitors, I always hoped to be as strong and as successful as Martin Beavers. I never made it though. He set the bar very, very high. He was an excellent technician, and a skilled strategist. I tried to emulate that in my own lifting.**
- Feedback from Jay Siegel the former USAPL PA State Chairman and son of the former late USAPL/ADFPA President Al Siegel:
  - **Jay said Martin is one of the greatest lifters ever!**
- Feedback from Tim Davis Jr. former USAPL 242lb lifter:
  - **Tim said Martin is one of the greatest lifters of all time!!!**
- Feedback from USA Powerlifting after Martin was selected to the Silver Anniversary Top 25 All-Time Greatest Drug Free Lifters:
  - **Martin won several World Titles, several Best Lifter awards at major championships and routinely moved big weights and set many National and World Records in the Calmest Demeanor. He was a class act and could have snagged several more National Titles in the Open Division than the Whopping 8 that he won.**

Best Competition Lifts:

<u>165 lb class</u>

- Squat – 672 lbs
- Bench – 425 lbs
- Deadlift – 675 lbs
- Total – 1765 lbs

<u>181 lb class</u>

- Squat – 722 lbs
- Bench – 457 lbs
- Deadlift – 711 lbs
- Total – 1890 lbs

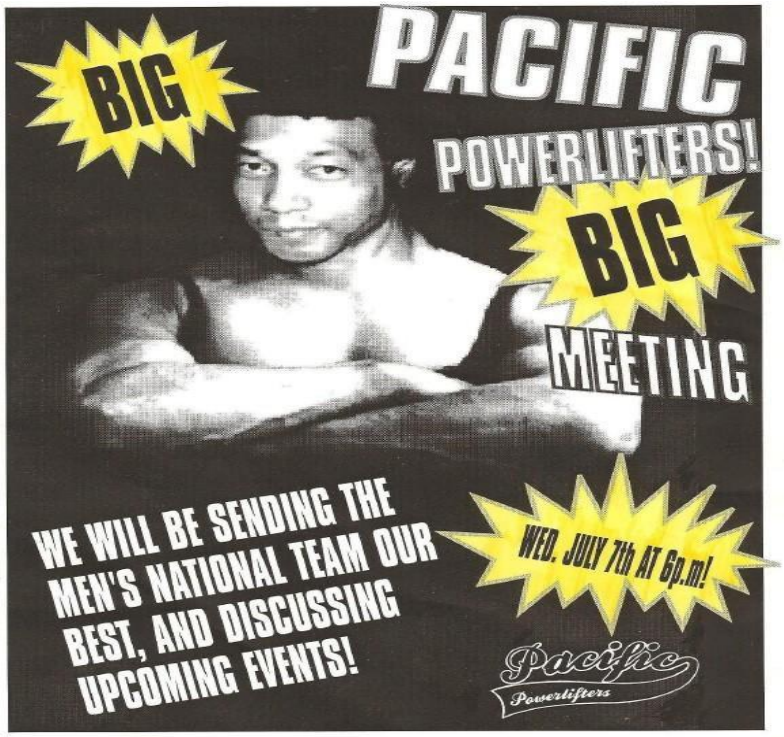
Accomplishments:

- 8 x USA National Open Division Champion
- 6 x World Open Division Champion
- 5 x Best Lifter at the USA Nationals
- 3 x Best Lifter at the World Championships
- Selected to the USA Powerlifting Silver Anniversary Team Top 25 All-Time Greatest Drug-Free Lifters
- Was the first ADFPA/USAPL 75 kilo (165 class) lifter to break the 800 kilo (1763.7 pound) barrier when he totaled 800.6 kilos (1765 pounds)
- First Male lifter from Washington State to be inducted into the USA Powerlifting Men's Hall Of Fame
- First lifter from Washington State to win an ADFPA/USAPL National Open Division title and World title
- <u>Highest Total</u> co-efficient pound per pound total ever in the Pacific Northwest in the ADFPA/USAPL – 1765 lb total in the 165 class
- <u>Highest Squat</u> co-efficient pound per pound total ever in the Pacific Northwest in the ADFPA/USAPL – 672 lb Squat in the 165 class
- <u>Highest Deadlift</u> co-efficient pound per pound total ever in the Pacific Northwest in the ADFPA/USAPL – 675 lb Deadlift in the 165 class

Accomplishments:

- Set World & American Open Division Records in the 165 lb weight class
  - World & American record total – 1765 lbs
  - World & American record Squat – 672 lbs
  - World & American record Bench Press – 425 lbs
- 5 x Northwest Regional Open Division Champion & Best Lifter
- 2 x West Coast Open Division Champion & Best Lifter
- 2 x Lifetime Drug-Free USA Open Division Champion & Best Lifter

- Washington State open division record holder in the 165 class in the Squat - 672, Bench Press - 425, Deadlift - 675 & Total - 1765
- Washington State open division record holder in the 181 class in the Squat, Bench Press & Total
- 1 x Las Vegas USA Nationals Bench Press Championship open division champion
- 4 x Pacific Powerlifters USA Women's National Team Champions – As a coach
- 2 x Pacific Powerlifters USA Masters National Team Champions – As a coach
- Promoted the 1998 USA Women's Nationals in Seattle, Washington
- ADFPA/USAPL National Referee since 1986

Other interesting facts:

- Was the co-founder and coach along with the late Willie Austin of the Pacific Powerlifters
- Was the founder of the Tacoma Powerlifters
- Was in Ray Benemerito (the great 198 lb Hall Of Fame Lifter) wedding party as a groomsman when Ray got married
- Was in Bull Stewart (the great 242 lb Lifter) wedding party as his best man when Bull got married
- Martin had some great training partners in his career that helped drive him and supported him to be the very best – Andy Roberts, Doug Parish, Colin Fabre, Bull Stewart, Roger Silva, the late Willie Austin, Brad Gibbs and Jerry Schmidt. All of these gentleman were not only great training partners, but they all were great supportive friends of Martin.