## NORTH DAKOTA RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION HALL + OF + FANE



**Steve Neu** 

## **Steve Neu** BISMARCK PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT 2005

Steve Neu was the 12th individual elected to the NDRPA Hall of Fame. Neu has been a member of NDRPA since 1975 and served in several positions within the organization, including president. Neu was passionate about being involved with state legislation and also lobbied for efficient mill levies and state revenue sharing.

Neu received his undergraduate degree in parks and recreation administration from the University of North Dakota in 1976 and a master's degree in management from the University of Mary. Before holding the position of director of parks and recreation in Bismarck from 1987-2011, he worked in the recreation departments in Williston and Wolf Point, Montana.

During Neu's time as director in Williston, the community hosted the 1980 Babe Ruth World Series and opened the Raymond Family Community Center. In Bismarck as director, Neu facilitated the development of Cottonwood Park, Capital Racquet and Fitness Center, and the Bismarck Community Bowl.

Neu held the position of chairperson of the Midwest Regional Council, as well as president of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). During his time as director, Bismarck was the NRPA Gold Medal Winner (1993), *Sports Illustrated* 50th Anniversary Sportstown for North Dakota (2004), and earned multiple American Softball Association awards.

The recipient of many awards, Neu received the University of North Dakota Recreation and Leisure Outstanding Alumni distinction (2001) and NRPA's Meritorious Service Award (1999) and Fellow Award (1990), as well induction into the North Dakota Babe Ruth Hall of Fame (1991).

All NDRPA Hall of Fame members are recognized with plaques at the North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in the Jamestown Civic Center.



Advancing parks and recreation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota.