



2018 President's Letter

We will be celebrating 10 seasons this year 2018. We began as a single mom and a few coaches trying to keep the summer baseball program alive in Durham.

We have had many coaches, players and volunteers come and go for various reasons but thanks to God's grace and mercy we have survived with sufficient improvements. Improvements for the players, for the coaches, for the parents and improvements for Durham as a city.

We don't have any professional athletes or companies that give us huge grants each year but we do have faith and we believe in making a difference in these young men lives. We survive one year at a time thanks to God for sending us countless blessings each year. Especially blessings in the form of sponsors, coaches and staff.

We have supported our players for nine years on the field and now we are able to support them with their college education. When you have players maintaining A/B honor role, you have to find a way to support their education because a mind is a terrible thing to waste.

God gave me one son and then blessed me with 133 more as we have broadened our boundaries to include players in nearby cities and rural areas. We have seen how changing the way our players think changes the way they play and act.

Young people need structured activities especially when school is out. They also need to be held accountable for their actions as too many times they aren't. I believe it takes a village to raise children and that village doesn't always have to be in our own backyard. It may be in a ballpark!

Please help us continue to support our Long Ball scholars. No donation is too small. When applying for other scholarships I was told their funds may go to family members in their organization. That was not for me, so a voice said *use the talent you have to start your own scholarship fund*. So "From My Heart To Yours" was created. Can you imagine having 133 young men that love to play baseball and you do everything in your power to make sure they get to play on a level playing field. Please join me to make sure Long Ball will be stronger and better than ever.

Thank You

Pat James