

# Bryan Krull

Minnetonka

1997/1999 MVP

Class A

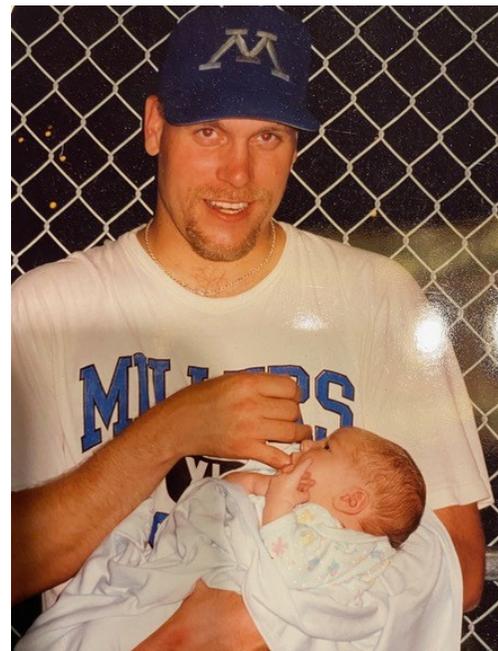
**In his own words:** I remember the team names, but the fun part of this was playing with the Millers. A lot of the guys I had played with in the past at Mankato State. We continued to reload with guys from Mankato, UMD and the U of M. It was just a fun environment. Kevin Hoy and company have kept that going for quite a few years. From a pitching perspective Kevin would come to the bull pen and ask, "How many do we need." Based on how I was feeling, nine times out of ten I would tell him two. In that state tournament, I remember the 1999 more than the 1997, he came down both games and I said give me one and we're good. And sure enough, I don't think I gave up a run that year in the two games I pitched (Minnetonka 9, Lakers 0 and Minnetonka 11, MN Athletic 0).

The fun part of that 1997 year was that I found out that my wife was pregnant. My son was in her belly. I gave up a couple but still won two games. I was lucky enough to come out of college and actually grow more as a pitcher after college than I did during college, which is a lot of fun. I picked up two additional pitches—a really good slider and started throwing a knuckle ball just for fun and ended up mastering it—so it was nice being a five-pitch pitcher and being able to figure out which three were working any particular day and using that to my advantage. There was good defense behind me so I didn't have to worry about striking them all out.

From '93 through the end of the '90s was kind of our building years. We got a lot of U guys, UMD, St. Cloud State and guys that had always played against each other when we were in college. We just called each other up and said hey, let's go play some ball. We had a few guys say yes and it ended up working great.

I do remember playing St. Louis Park. They were always a solid rival. Their catcher, Chris Johnson, we got to know each other pretty well. He was always the toughest hitter for me. Mentally, I knew he was a really good hitter, but I also knew I had his number. I knew if I ever gave him a chance to get on a run he would continue that cycle. I didn't let him get his confidence. He told me after we had both quit playing that he just could not figure me out. He came up with two guys on and we were ahead by two or three and I ended up striking him out to end the inning (Minnetonka 7, St. Louis Park 4).

In 1999, we just clicked all across the board. We jumped on every team early and cruised. That was a special year for all of us. We had Chris Urbain, Matt Parrington, Mark Young and all the guys that had been around for a while just put it together and really kind of ran through that tournament. That was a lot of fun. I wanted to be on the hill. I was a competitor, always was and still am.



- Bryan Krull, Minnetonka, 1997, Pitcher
- Won two games
- Pitched 15 innings
- Allowed two runs on 13 hits for a 1.20 ERA
- Walked no one while striking out nine
- Bryan Krull, Minnetonka, 1999, Pitcher
- Won two games
- Pitched 14 innings
- Allowed zero runs on seven hits for a 0.00 ERA
- Struck out 20 while only walking two batters

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