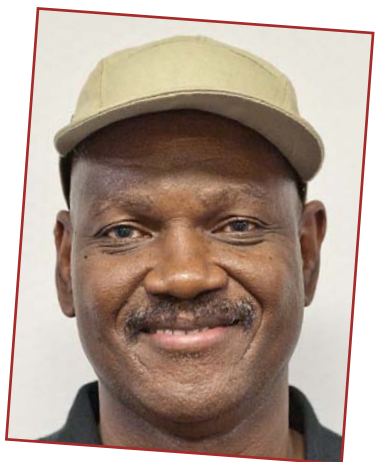


Mini-Bio

JEROME WILLIAMS



BIRTHDAY: October 19

CITY OF RESIDENCE: Clinton, Maryland

SOCIAL STATUS: Married. I had four kids in my first marriage—two boys and two girls, but they're older. I'm living now with my wife and my two youngest kids. The youngest is 15; she'll be 16 in December. I have one that just turned 20; she's in her third year at Bowie State.

EDUCATION: Graduate of Phelps Vocational High School

CURRENT JOB: I've been a locksmith with my brother since 1991, after I retired. Before that, I worked at the American Red Cross for 36 years.

EARLIEST BOWLING MEMORY: Some acquaintances were bowling, and I started practicing with them, and I liked it, so I just continued.

CURRENT BOWLING LEAGUES: Thursday Trios at Potomac Lanes and Tri-Nightly at Crofton Bowling Centre. I also sub in two leagues—Joe Satterfield Mixed at Riverdale and the Friends United Mixed Doubles at Potomac.

NOTABLE TOURNAMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS: I bowled at the Rhodman about two years ago in Delaware and finished third and in the head-to-head rounds wound up in fourth.

BEST PART OF MY GAME: I would say my spare game.

PART OF MY GAME I WORK ON THE MOST: My spare game mostly. I feel my strikes will come, it's just that sometimes you're not hitting where you should be—your area. So that's where the subbing comes in; I'm getting a little more practice. And this is probably how I shot so well in the [NCAUSBCA Senior Tournament] because I've been bowling every week like three or four times a week for the last two months at least.

WORST OR MOST EMBARRASSING BOWLING MOMENT:

This goes back a while, and one of my friends always teases me about it. I used to tell them when they missed a spare, "Oh, it's all right." But this day, I missed a spare that would have won the game, and he said that to me. And I said, "It *ain't* all right!" I felt so bad. I mean, the ball didn't have a chance—like it went straight in the gutter. I was so hurt.

BEST TACTIC I USE TO HANDLE PRESSURE:

I just try to take one frame at a time. I always get nervous if I'm on a roll. Like in the Senior Tournament, I was on a nine-bagger. It wasn't really pressure, but I know my hands sweat normally from the first frame until I'm almost out of the bowling alley anyway, so I try to just remember to make sure my hands are dry before I get on the approach.

SPARE-SHOOTER RATING (10 = best / 1 = worst): Between 8 and 9

SPARE COMBINATION THAT DRIVES ME CRAZY: The 3-6-10

IMPORTANCE OF BOWLING IN MY LIFE (10 = most / 1 = least):

I have to put it around a "7." My family definitely comes first. I enjoy my family, I love my family.

MOST IMMEDIATE BOWLING GOAL:

That was one of my main accomplishments, to bowl an 800. I felt like I was always falling down after I bowled a good game. I had three good games that day. But I would like to finish with at least 10 300s before I finish bowling if I'm capable and physically able. So far, I have only four. Like I say, when the pressure hits me, that's the first thing I'm thinking about—going all the way with it.

INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF BOWLING:

I do a lot of fishing—deep sea or anything on the Bay. I only bowl tournaments in the summer. You might find me going fishing every week. One of my older brothers started me when I was 17 years old, and I haven't looked back since.

FAMOUS LIVING PERSON I MOST ADMIRE:

I have to say President Obama. I was really thrilled when he became president. There are a lot of things that he hasn't accomplished that he has been trying to get done, and I hope he fulfills a lot more things than he has so far.

FAMOUS PERSON WHO MOST ANNOYS ME:

He doesn't annoy me now, but he used to: Charles Barkley. He was a great ball player, but I didn't like his attitude.

MY ONE GUILTY PLEASURE:

I treat myself by going to Oldies But Goodies. I don't enjoy leaving my wife at home, but she doesn't enjoy it like I do, and I love hand dancing.

FIRST THING I'D BUY IF I WON THE LOTTERY:

It all depends on how much money I'm going to get. I know everyone says a bowling alley, and that's what I really want. If I didn't get enough money, I wouldn't know what I'd buy.

THE ONE PLACE I WANT TO VISIT:

I think I've visited everywhere I've wanted to go. A lot of people love traveling, but I'm not a flyer. I don't really enjoy flying. I like driving. If I'm going to go anywhere, I want to be able to drive there.

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FAVORITE MEAL: Fish and chicken

FAVORITE BEVERAGE: Diet Coke or Diet Pepsi, either one

FAVORITE TV SHOW: First thing I look at every morning is old cowboy pictures: I look at *Gunsmoke* at 7 a.m., and as soon as I wake up, I'm turning on *Gunsmoke*. I really like Festus.

FAVORITE MOVIE: "John Q" with Denzel Washington

FAVORITE ACTOR: Will Smith

FAVORITE ACTRESS: Julia Roberts

MY MOST OVERUSED PHRASE: I wouldn't write this because it may sound like I'm being nasty, but everyone likes the way I say it, and they laugh. It's a phrase called "shut up," and it's the way that I say it. It's not nasty. Just say like something happened and then they start getting on me because I'm doing something. And I'll say [in a high-pitched tone], "Shut up!"

NICKNAME: "Roney"

PRODUCT FOR WHICH I'D LIKE TO BE SPOKESMAN: I guess it would have to be one of my diet sodas—Diet Coke or Diet Pepsi.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION I CAN NEVER KEEP: Losing weight

TASK I HATE TO DO: I wouldn't say I hate to do it, but I hate to see the grass grow too fast because I don't have time to cut it the majority of the time because I'm always in and out. I guess I'd have to say cutting the grass.

SUBJECT ABOUT WHICH I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE: Politics. I don't really follow it like I should. When the time comes, I get down and I look at it and listen. But there are a lot of phrases that they use, and I'm not really up on it. That wasn't one of my best subjects when I came out of school.

THREE FAMOUS PEOPLE (LIVING OR DEAD) I'D INVITE TO MY HOME FOR DINNER: President Obama, Will Smith, and Halle Berry

NUMBER ONE PET PEEVE: The solid 7 [-pin]. I don't understand that!

ONE WORD THAT BEST DESCRIBES ME: *Friendly*

BIGGEST PERSONAL REGRET: Not going further in school

NOBODY KNOWS I'M GOOD AT: Locksmithing

SUPERSTITIONS: I don't like cats. I avoid them. When I go to people's homes, I ask if they have cats. If they have a cat, they have to put it up, and if they have more than one, I kindly ask if they would call another locksmith. Cats are so sneaky. It goes back to when I was young. We grew up next door to someone who had cats. They were always hanging around on our porch. And when you open that door and their eyes light up and then their teeth show ... I've not forgotten that!

MY MOST TREASURED POSSESSION: My wife—she means everything to me.

IF I COULD BE GRANTED ONE WISH: Be rich

FUTURE PLANS: Stay healthy

PHILOSOPHY I LIVE BY: Live one day at a time

On October 24, 2010, Jerome Williams scored 278-275-277/830, the first bowler to record an 800 series in the 29-year history of the NCAUSBCA Senior Tournament.