

# Libby Kestel

## Class of 1981

# 2020 Hall of Fame Inductee

**Second Best Catcher In Entire State  
1981**



Kestel was a four-year letter winner in softball, basketball, track and golf from 1978 through 1981.

She was a two-time all-state softball player when there was only one class in Iowa. As a freshman, she was the starting catcher during a brilliant 16-3 season. She continued as catcher in her sophomore, junior and senior seasons, as St. Mary's compiled a cumulative record of 79-25. As a junior, she was a fifth team all-class all-state selection. As a senior, she was the second best catcher in the entire state.

Kestel was also a member of the state champion sprint medley relay team in 1981 in a time of 1:51.35, which still stands as a school record. In that same year, she was also a member of the 4x100 relay team that still holds the school record (51.03). The sprint medley relay team was a 2018 inductee to the SM Hall of Fame. She also set the conference record for the softball throw at 214' 5".

Kestel's achievements as a college softball player are legendary. She was a four-year standout at Buena Vista College (now Buena Vista University), having started every year. She was a four-year all-conference selection. As a junior, she led the Beavers to the NCAA Division III National Title with a .400 average and 23 RBI's. As a junior and a senior, she was 1st team All-American.

Kestel is the only known St. Mary's alumni to be inducted into their college's athletic Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 1996.