

JERRY HATCH

Driver / Crew Chief

The Maine Motorsports Hall of Fame honors drivers of all kinds who have had a significant and lasting impact in racing. When it comes to drag racers, Jerry Hatch has more than earned his place in this select company. Family and friends say that Jerry was born to race, and they weren't surprised that at age 15, just three days after getting his drivers license, he was racing his mother's car at Winterport Dragway, and he hasn't stopped racing since. Through the late 60's and 70's he raced part-time as bracket racing began to take hold. People started to recognize his talents and he soon started tuning and racing cars for others, winning a respectable 25% of his races through the mid 80's. In 1987 he made the decision to start his own team with his daughter's Crystal and Monica. From that point on, with countless victories and 16 championships, they established themselves as the most successful team in the 52-year history of Winterport Dragway. In the 1990's he became part owner of the track and worked to continually improve the facility. As his resume continued to grow in the state of Maine, his talents as an engine builder were soon being recruited by teams around New England. He was sought out and hired to race for other teams and now races throughout the country. Throughout his storied career, he has set 14 national records as a driver or crew chief and is a multi-time NHRA Wally Trophy winner. His national record for the first D/SA car to ever make a 9-second / 130.80mph pass, still stands today. Beyond his extensive background in racing, Jerry's passion for the sport was also evident from his dedication to his teams and track as well as his generosity with his fellow racers and his community, especially young people. Congratulations to Jerry Hatch on his induction into the Maine Motorsports Hall of Fame.

