



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: EVAN HANSEN
-by Larry Wolfe

One man's misery is another man's fortune. That quotation could certainly apply to Evan Hansen. After all, most would consider bugs, slugs and weeds some of life's miseries, but to Evan they were his "calling."

Evan is a native of Mt. Vernon, Washington, a small city north of Seattle. He graduated from Mt. Vernon High where he was on the Bulldogs' football, basketball, tennis and track teams. He then earned a BS in Business Administration from Linfield (Oregon) College. While there he entered an internship program with Standard Oil which would lead to his vocation in the insect and weed control business. He went to work for Standard Oil in Portland after graduating, and then transferred to their San Francisco home office. Later he worked for Chevron Chemical, a Standard Oil subsidiary which manufactured and distributed Ortho lawn and garden products. He concentrated in sales and marketing, with territories in southern and northern California, then became sales manager for chain accounts back in Portland. In 1993 Monsanto (of Roundup fame) bought the Ortho product line and Evan became a Monsanto man. Two years before his retirement, Scott's Lawn Care bought the marketing rights to Roundup and Ortho, giving Evan the three "Big Guns" in the lawn and garden business. So you can see Evan had a nice career helping cure the miseries of others!

Evan and his lovely wife, Linda, retired to Sun Lakes in 2001. He had visited the area numerous times, primarily for spring training games and knew they wanted to ultimately retire here. Residents Larry and Patti Delaney, a former co-worker of Linda's in Portland, recommended Sun Lakes to them. Larry also introduced Evan to Sun Lakes softball. Even though he had never played organized softball, Evan soon became one of the league's top players. He also plays for and coaches our highly-successful travel teams for which he's earned several World Championship rings.

Besides softball, Evan keeps busy playing tennis and making numerous "airport runs" as a part-time business. He's also involved in Children's Ministries and Bible Studies at Cornerstone Christian Fellowship in Chandler. Meanwhile Linda keeps busy volunteering with the SL Fire Department's Community Assistance Program and participating in the local chorale and theatre. (She just finished co-producing and acting in the highly-entertaining Doo Wop production.)

Evan and Linda also enjoy cruises and have been to the Caribbean, Mediterranean and Nova Scotia areas with more trips planned. Their next big adventure will be working as marshals at next year's US Open at Pebble Beach. While there he may even give the superintendent (his son-in-law) a few pointers on how to control those weeds!

When interviewing Evan, he often spoke of how blessed his life has been. He specifically mentioned his marriage to Linda, his kids and grandkids, his religion and his profession which allowed him to travel and see lots of different places and to retire where the sun always shines. One can't ask for much more.