



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: LARRY WOLFE

By Mike Core

There are dozens of organizations which add to the quality of life for Sun Lakes residents. And in every one of those organizations there is someone who has a passion for its focus. This person is one who not only enjoys the group but whose efforts behind the scenes become essential for the success of the group.

For the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association (SLSSA), Larry Wolfe is that person.

If that name sounds familiar, it's because for several years Larry has been writing feature stories on various SLSSA players as well as keeping readers updated on the activities of its men's and ladies' softball programs. Over this period Larry has profiled 35+ players.

However, Larry's much more than just a scribe for the SLSSA; he serves as Board Secretary and remains an avid player to boot. Larry has single-handedly worked over the past three years to sell all of the ball park's outfield fence advertising space. This revenue keeps costs down to league participants and provides local merchants another outlet to advertise services.

Larry has played softball in Sun Lakes since 2000, but the diamond sport is nothing new to Larry. He has been an avid baseball fan since he was old enough to stay up and listen to radio broadcasts of the Cincinnati Reds in the 1950s. He was raised in Wapakoneta, Ohio, made famous in 1969 as the home of Neil Armstrong.

Growing up, Larry and his two brothers always organized a summer whiffle ball league that kept neighborhood kids busy all day long, playing a regular schedule of games daily. Larry's attention to detail started early in life through the meticulous statistics and standings compiled each summer in the whiffle ball league. The league even included an all-star game with the starters lining up along the foul lines and the National Anthem played to start the game. Larry's love for baseball followed him wherever he lived as he attended hundreds of games in Atlanta, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Phoenix. He's a big Diamondbacks fan, but remains a fan of the Reds, the team that introduced him to baseball.

To talk only about Larry's love of baseball would give an incomplete picture of a man who had a successful career in business. He graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in accounting and earned an MBA with Distinction in Finance from Rockhurst College, Kansas City.

Larry has over thirty years of experience in the business development and telecommunications industries, including positions as Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting and Administrative Officer, Managing Director and Corporate Secretary and Treasurer. He held officer level positions in domestic, international, public and private companies. His international experience includes a two-year assignment in Saudi Arabia, a one-year assignment in Toronto, and shorter assignments in Cairo, Egypt; Rome, Italy and China.

His attention to detail has served him well in business, softball, and, of course, whiffle ball!