



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: FLOYD MULLEN
-by Larry Wolfe

A native of Algoma, Wisconsin, a fishing village near Green Bay, Floyd Mullen still bleeds “Packer Green.” He fondly recalls the days when the Packers played at the nearby East High School Stadium and he and his buddies jumped the snow fences to watch the likes of Tobin Rote and Babe Parilli for free!

Floyd served in the Navy for three years after graduating from Algoma High, where he played some basketball and baseball. In the Navy, he was an electronics technician, serving on mine sweepers off the coast of Charleston, SC. After his discharge, he worked for the Heil Company in Milwaukee, attended night school for five years and finally attended Marquette University earning an Electrical Engineering degree. He also married his lovely wife, Joan, during that period. Floyd then worked briefly for the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan before joining Lake Center Industries in Winona, Minnesota.

In 1984, Floyd and two other visionary engineers formed an electronics assembly company in Floyd's garage. That would become one of Floyd's "claims to fame" as they grew the company from that small beginning to a company with three plants, 350 employees and revenues of over \$20 million. Within the first five years, the company, RiverSide Electronics, was named one of the top 25 fastest growing high tech companies in the United States. The company provides services for many major customers, including the Trane Company, John Deere, IBM and Eastman Kodak. Floyd is justifiably proud that the company is still a highly-respected and financially successful employer in Minnesota. In retrospect, Floyd says he became an entrepreneur before he even knew what an entrepreneur was!

Floyd sold his share of the company in 1993 and began living the good life in Sun Lakes the following year after discovering the Field of Dreams on Riggs Road. They built one of the first houses in Oakwood and have been happy Sun Lakers ever since.

A "lifetime" softball player while in Wisconsin and Minnesota, Floyd was able to continue his passion in Sun Lakes. He's played on the Phoenix Coyotes travel team as well as the Sun Lakes' 50s, 55s, 60s and 65s tournament teams. He's been one of the league's star players, earning recognition in the 600 Club for several years.

Floyd's other sports passion is golf, which he plays twice weekly. He also golfs and plays softball back in Green Bay where the Mullens have their summer home. Floyd has also been a loyal Lions Club member since 1982.

Grandkids are also a high priority for Joan and Floyd. They're lucky to have their son Craig and his family living in the area. Those two grandkids keep Grandma and Grandpa hopping. They also visit son Patrick and his family in Anchorage (four more grandkids there!) once or twice per year.

A successful business career, early retirement, a 47-year marriage, two sons and six grandkids plus a .600 batting average..... What more could one ask for?