



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: FRANK TANNER
-by Larry Wolfe

After watching Frank Tanner at the Field of Dreams, you'd probably guess he was an all-around athlete...and you'd be right. Frank grew up with constant skinned knees and elbows from playing baseball, football and ice hockey in his native Winnipeg, Canada. He's also a very good golfer, skier and curler (you gotta be Canadian for that!). Since joining our league four years ago, Frank has consistently been one of our top five hitters as well as a strong-armed infielder and top-level pitcher; he's also a key member of the Desert Dawgs 60+ tournament team.

After graduating from high school in Winnipeg, Frank attended the University of Winnipeg before pursuing a career as a sales rep for McKenzie Seed Company. He soon was transferred to Calgary where he later joined Westland, Ltd. for what would be the start of a thirty-five-year career in sales culminating in the position of National Sales Manager. (Westland is Canada's largest manufacturer, importer and distributor of lawn and garden supplies. Yes, there are lawns under all that snow!) Frank traveled extensively throughout Canada and the U.S. as well as to Europe and Asia where he sourced new products for the

company. His customers included the “big guys” such as Wal-Mart and Home Depot as well as many other large suppliers. Frank “mostly retired” a few years ago, but still has a small sales route which he pursues when he’s back in Canada during the summers.

A singles trip to Costa Rico in the eighties resulted in Frank meeting Lynn, the love of his life. After realizing she also enjoyed baseball, curling, golf and skiing, and knew more about football than he did, Frank knew he’d found that special someone. And, as they say, the rest is history!

The Tanners own a golf-course home in beautiful Ravelstoke, BC, a mountain ski resort town located on the banks of the Columbia River. They have the best of both worlds—summers in BC and winters in Arizona. That also means they have the opportunity for year-round golfing and “softballing!” That’s a hard combination to beat!

Besides being a star softball player, Frank has several golfing “claims to fame.” He’s played at the famous St. Andrews Golf Club in Scotland, the oldest golf course in the world. He also shot par at the difficult Country Hills Golf Club in Calgary and has two holes-in-one!

Lynn and Frank enjoyed many exciting winter getaway adventures including everything from scuba diving in Belize to riding elephants in Thailand before deciding they needed a longer respite from the cold Canadian winters. Having visited his cousin Gord in Sun Lakes over the years, Frank knew that was the place for him. Lynn just joined the Sun Lakes ladies softball team this year, so they both now golf and play softball as well as find time for some mountain biking. They’re both glad they discovered Sun Lakes... and Sun Lakes, especially Sun Lakes Softball, is glad to have them!