



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: RICH NADLER
-by Larry Wolfe

When you meet the always-smiling, happy-go-lucky Rich Nadler, you'd think his life had always been a bowl of cherries; however, Rich overcame a very tough start to life. Rich spent his first sixteen years in an orphanage, followed by two years in a group foster home. He did manage to graduate from John Adams High in Queens, then joined the Marines. After two-plus years, he returned to New York and "bummed around" for awhile before obtaining a hardship scholarship to NYU through the Jewish Federation. Rich met his future wife, Noreen, there, which was the beginning of a romance that is now entering its forty-fifth year. Rich credits Noreen for providing the steady influence and guidance that made the difference during their challenging early years.

After two years at NYU, he entered the business world. His first real job was with the Melville Shoe Corporation, followed by several years with Space Rentals and GE Capital. He worked his way up to VP-Sales with GE before venturing out on his own, forming Nadler Mobile Offices & Trailer Rentals. Rich ran his own highly-successful businesses for nearly thirty years before selling out in 2005. He then continued in a consulting role through 2007 before "really retiring." See www.nadlermobile.com for more info regarding his company.

His business success is a great story on its own, but Rich also had many other interesting avocations:

Let's start with being the lead singer for Ricky & the Rockets, a '60s rock band that performed at the famous Peppermint Lounge.

Or how about attending the highly-respected Stella Adler Acting Conservatory?

There's also his time as a professional blackjack player, where he was thrown out of the best casinos in the world for his card-counting expertise!

Later he became a pro poker player. In fact, he's still a winner at poker, having competed in the World Championship Tournament in Monte Carlo just last year.

He was also a championship-caliber table tennis player and owned race horses. You get the picture.....!!!

You'd think with all those activities Rich wouldn't have had time for softball, but au contraire.... Rich not only has played for over 25 years, but also served for ten years as Commissioner of the New Jersey Senior Softball League. In 2001, he received the Spirit of Senior Softball Award for his meritorious service to NJ softball. His love of the game continues with his participation in the Sun Lakes League. In fact, it was softball that prompted Rich and Noreen to make Sun Lakes their permanent retirement home. Rich is one of the league's top batters, hitting a robust and team-leading .659 this year.

There are many more "Rich stories," but I'd exceed my word limit!

Let's just conclude by saying that while Rich started life with an empty bowl....it's now overflowing with cherries...including his lovely wife, two great kids, a super son-in-law and a grandson who is the "apple of his eye." Life doesn't get much better.....