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SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: RON CARMICHAEL -Larry Wolfe

"Quiet and unassuming" are adjectives that might describe Ron Carmichael, who in his own words "likes to stay under the radar." Maybe that started, when as a youngster, he worked as a projectionist in a theatre where you "had to be quiet?"

After graduating from Tremper High in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Ron entered the work force as a Field Service Technician for RCA, servicing theatres and TV stations. He then worked several years for GE and National Cinema Service (NCS), installing and servicing CCTV and theatre equipment. At age 34, he became an entrepreneur, obtaining financing to purchase the CCTV division from NCS. His new company,

CTV Electronics, sold, installed and serviced closed circuit surveillance equipment to customers on a nationwide basis.

Ron and Dottie, his wife of 40 years, lived in Kenosha until they agreed to move to Arizona in 1996 so that their son, Nick, could play high school baseball and golf at Corona del Sol High in Tempe. In Wisconsin, the two sports "overlapped" and Nick wanted to play both. Nick then attended ASU for two years before getting the urge to move "back home" to Wisconsin. Dottie and Ron soon followed. (Ron now says, "I'm not sure what we were thinking!) Since Ron's business was nationwide, it didn't really matter where they lived. After 14 years, Ron decided to "transition out" of running his own business and joined Abbot Labs as a Service Technician, servicing and maintaining CCTV, alarms and access control equipment and systems. He spent ten years with Abbot before retiring and moving back to Arizona in 2013.

Today, the Carmichaels are enjoying retirement; they're both ardent golfers with memberships at the Arizona Grand Golf Club. They also enjoy bowling in our Sun Lakes leagues, although Ron says that's really Dottie's sport! Then, of course, there's softball. Believe it or not, Ron played in our Monday recreational program back in the late 90s when our field was located on the site of the current Sun Lakes Library. He was "too young" for league play, but decided then that he was a "senior at heart!" Now back in Arizona, he's officially a senior and says he is blessed to be in our organization, which he considers a "really well-run program with a lot of great guys."

Among Ron's other interests are traveling, cruising and doing "handyman" and remodeling activities around the house. He claims that Dottie always has "another project" for him! She's the Project Manager and he's the "people." Ron is also a devoted blood donor, having given gallons and gallons over the years. (Plug: Call United Blood Services to donate.) Their greatest joy, however, is spending time with their three grandkids, ages 7, 5 and 2 (luckily son Nick, his wife Allison and the grandkids live in Arizona where Nick teaches at Skyline High and Allison is the Principal of Gateway Polytechnic Academy). I'm sure those three grandkids more than make up for "quiet Grandpa!"