



SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: DICK MORAN
-by Larry Wolfe

Upon first meeting Dick Moran, one typecasts him as the strong, silent type...in the Gary Cooper mold. But beneath that reserved exterior is a man of action, as is evidenced by his life story. Richard “Dick” Moran was born in Shenandoah, Virginia, and grew up in Collingswood, New Jersey where he played defensive end and linebacker for the Collingswood Knights football team. (That school boasts another strong, silent type alum, Eugene “Ugie” Orowitz, better known as Michael Landon of *Bonanza* fame.)

After graduation, Dick served for four years in the Air Force where he was a member of the Radar ECM (Electronic Countermeasures) Squadron in Africa and Europe during the Cold War era. Members of that group became very close and Dick still enjoys reminiscing with his fellow vets at their biennial reunions.

After his discharge, Dick attended Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania, earning a BSBA and playing football for the Mules. He

later continued his football “career” playing in a semi-pro league for the Bridesburg (PA) Indians.

Dick joined Union Carbide upon graduation and spent a long and successful career in engineering and marketing with that company. Most of his career was in the industrial gases and industrial welding equipment divisions. Union Carbide is now a subsidiary of Dow Chemical, but it was one of the largest independent chemical and polymer companies in the world when Dick worked for them. After twenty-five years there Dick took early retirement, but did not actually retire. Instead he was hired by Computer Weld Technology Company and worked in their Statistical Process Control Unit until he “really retired” to Sun Lakes in 2000.

Dick and wife Terry, who he married shortly after college, lived in many places during their working years including Moorestown (NJ), St. Louis, Des Moines, Tulsa, Milwaukee, Lincoln, Chicago and Houston. Sounds as if they should have invested in a moving company!

The sound of bat hitting ball called Dick in 2001 and he’s been playing in the Sun Lakes Senior Softball League since then. He also served a two-year term on the Board of Directors and is a volunteer umpire and scorekeeper. He says he really enjoys the opportunity to stay active in sports and the camaraderie with the guys.

Besides softball, Dick enjoys golf and snow skiing while Terry is very active in the Threads of Love Group, a non-profit organization providing clothing and accessories to premature babies and their families. In fact, she’s a founder of the local chapter of this nationwide charitable group. Dick and Terry also love to travel and “see the world.” They’ve traveled all over the USA plus they’ve cruised the Greek Isles and visited Egypt and other international destinations.

As one can see, Dick does have a lot in common with fellow alum, Michael Landon....they’re both the strong, silent types, but men of action who also have a *Bonanza* in common....except Michael Landon’s was a role in a TV show while Dick’s was real life!