



## **SENIOR SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: BILL HORNE**

**By Larry Wolfe**

**You probably remember the 1961 hit song “Travelin’ Man,” but with some changes to the lyrics, “Traveler’s Man” could best describe the career of Bill Horne.**

**After graduating from Winslow (Maine) High School, Bill earned a degree in Education from the University of Maine. At Winslow, Bill was a star quarterback and linebacker for the state champion Black Raiders. He continued his football “career” in college until suffering his fifth concussion and deciding that was probably enough! He then lettered in sailing, racing one- and two-man boats. As a cadet in the University’s ROTC Program, Bill was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant upon graduation. After training, he put his Education Degree to work by becoming an instructor in the Army’s Armor School.**

**After his two-year military obligation, Bill joined the Traveler’s Insurance Company in Hartford, CT. He went through an intensive one-year training course, learning all aspects of employee benefits, including health care insurance and pensions. This led to an eleven-year assignment in Chicago, followed by fifteen years back in Hartford and**

**then seven years in San Francisco. At Traveler's Bill became an intrapreneur, practicing entrepreneurship within a large company. He became President of a subsidiary focusing on Benefit Plan Administration and grew the company from a mere start-up operation to the second largest company of its type in the nation. Later, he opened the company's first Regional Home Office in San Francisco, again growing a start-up into a large enterprise. He really enjoyed all aspects of being in charge of building a successful business from the ground up.**

**After 30-plus years as a Traveler's Man, Bill and his wife, Karen, planned to retire in Arizona. They did "kind of" retire in Sierra Vista, a small town in Southeastern Arizona, but Bill was lured back to work as a consultant and that "six-month gig" turned into a three-year job. They really retired in 2002, initially moving to Ironwood and now reside in Oakwood.**

**The softball program was a primary inducement in choosing Sun Lakes as their retirement home (at least for Bill!). He really enjoys participating in all aspects of our program, including the highly-successful tournament travel teams. Bill is a key member of the 70+ team which has won two World Championship Titles this year. He considers this one of his top sports thrills.**

**Bill's also a model trains hobbyist. His interest in trains goes back to his childhood because the tracks of the Maine Central RR were 50 yards behind his house. He woke up and went to sleep with the sounds of locomotives, dreaming of traveling the country. Today he builds models of those specific railroad cars and has a large display case up in Pine Top.**

**The Hornes enjoy escaping our summer heat and traveling up to their home in Pine Top. They also have an RV and travel often to visit their twin grand babies in Louisiana. Maybe Bill's both a "Travelin' Man" AND a "Traveler's Man!"**