



**SOFTBALL PLAYER PROFILE: SAM GIORDANO**  
**-by Larry Wolfe**

**Talk about climbing the corporate ladder: Sam Giordano began working for AMC Theaters as an usher (back when they had ushers!) and wound up as Executive Vice-President: Design & Development, responsible for five US offices and four overseas. While in that position, he led the company’s international expansion into Hong Kong, Tokyo, Paris and Madrid. His trip up the ladder included stints in theatre management, as a production engineer and as VP: Construction where he was responsible for building new theatres. During his 38-year career with AMC, he lived in the LA area for 15 years and in the Kansas City area the remainder of the time. He traveled extensively, being responsible for developing theatres world-wide. Sam’s career achievements include being a developer of stadium seating for theatres and being named “Pioneer-of-the-Year” for his work in implementing digital cinema, the replacement for old-fashioned reel technology.**

**A KC native, Sam graduated from Northeast High where he played some football for the Vikings, but baseball was always his sport. He played on some type of team from the time he was eight right on through high school. A highlight occurred when his Little League team won the city, state and interstate championships. Sam was good enough**

**to earn a tryout with the expansion-era Kansas City Royals, but didn't quite make the grade into pro ball. He says he thought he was really good till he saw that competition!**

**Sam attended the University of Missouri-KC for a couple years before marriage and work intervened. He later earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Phoenix while he was in LA, then an MBA-Finance at Southern Cal. He and his lovely bride, Santa Marie, also raised two sons, Pete and Frank, while in California.**

**JP Morgan bought out AMC in late 2004 and Sam was able to take early retirement soon thereafter. Sam and Santa Marie had previously built a retirement home in Sun Lakes so they were ready for the full-time move in 2006.**

**Sam now keeps busy playing golf three times weekly and he and Santa Marie enjoy cycling and trail hiking. Additionally, he's a part-time consultant to smaller theatre companies.**

**The Giordanos also love to travel, especially to Italy. Santa Marie's family is from near Palermo in Sicily so they go back for frequent visits. They particularly love visiting Tuscany and the beautiful Amalfi Coast and usually travel at least four or five weeks every year.**

**Sam didn't begin playing Sun Lakes softball until last year due to rotator cuff problems, but he's finally healed and is again playing the game he loves. He's one of the most versatile players in our league, being equally adept in the infield and outfield. He says he really doesn't care where he plays; he just loves being a part of a fun group. Perhaps the motto on his shirt best summarizes his view of Sun Lakes softball: "E Pluribus Unum." Out of many....one!**