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Action started in the second largest senior softball tournament in America: the Southwest Championships in Las Vegas! Watch for tournament results in the next Senior Softball Newsletter.

## SSUSA Simplifies Registration Requirements

For all new Senior Softball USA players:

We are happy to announce that we have streamlined the First-Time Player Registration process to make it easier to join and play with SSUSA!



Starting April 6, 2022, SSUSA has simplified the process and **only requires one form of ID**.

Here is the new, streamlined application requirements:

First time applications must include:

- Player Registration Form
- Registration fee\* (Note: 4% fee for using Visa, Mastercard or Discover).
- Copy of Government-issued photo ID, such as Driver's License or Passport.
- Clear color photo (No black-and-white or faxed photos).

The Player Renewal Application remains the same, and only requires payment, not player ID information.

## New Women's 40s Team Captures Spring National Championships

By Donna McGuire

A 40+ AAA women's team playing in its first Senior Softball USA tournament nabbed one of 10 championship trophies awarded during the Spring National Championships in Polk County, Florida, in March.

But the title didn't come easy for newcomer Just Sayin' of Kentucky ([photo below](#)), one of 38 teams that competed in the March 18-20 event at Loyce Harpe and Walker Road softball complexes.

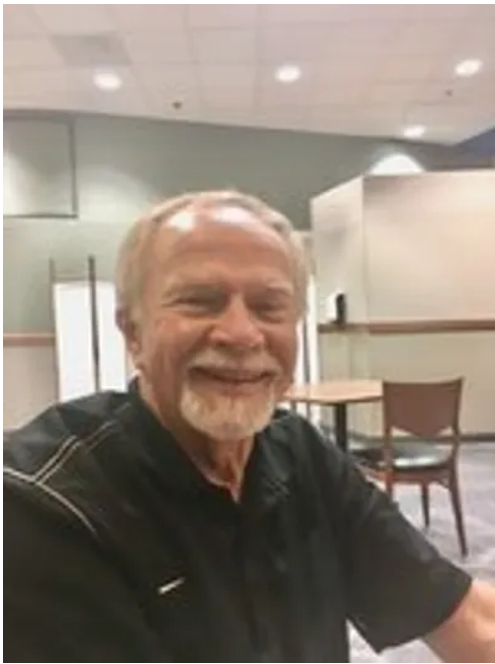


TM Force of Florida throttled Just Sayin' 15-2 in the first game of a two-out-of-three bracket. In the next game, Just Sayin' flipped the script for a 11-6 victory. That set up a winner-take-all final that Just Sayin' won 15-7.

Close competition highlighted the three-team **50+ Gold women's** division. Kryptonite of Florida ([photo below](#)) lost the fir

## Obituaries - March-April 2022

Wesley L. Anderson



Wesley L. Anderson, 75, of Eugene, OR, died on Jan. 2, 2022.

Anderson, a Senior Softball member and beloved player on many Oregon teams since the late 1990s, passed away due to lung complications in Tucson, Az., in early January.

"His passion was playing senior softball where he got to travel to Hawaii, Florida, and played major tournaments in Reno, Vegas, and St. George", his obituary mentions. Off the field, "Wes' hobbies included model A's, street rods, and boats."

Anderson's coach, Mr. John Seekins of Mr. Plywood 75s AAA, remembers Wes "#22" as "a perennial all-star shortstop" and a "coaches dream". He played with Mr. Plywood 70/75s, General Equipment 75s, Scrap Iron Diamonds 70s, Stagecoach Saloon 65s, Suburban Auto Group 65s, Oregon Roadrunners 65s, Jeld-Wen Communities 60s, starting with the Oregon Raiders 50s.

Wes will also be remembered as an Air Force veteran, Drain City (OR) Councilmember, and as a human resource employee for Duco Lam, American Laminators and Rosboro.

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**Edward Schultz**

title game 7-6 to Dynasty Girls of Florida but rebounded with a 13-9 championship game victory. BAGS of Florida finished third.



Nine teams competed in the largest men's bracket, the **50+ AAA** division won by Crawford Contracting of Michigan. Crawford capped an unbeaten run through bracket play with a 26-16 championship game victory over Vector Scorpions of Florida. Daytona Beach Boyz placed third.

Wiley/Maxbatz outclassed the opposition in the **50+ Major** division, winning its games by an average score of 23-14. Wiley capped its strong tournament with a 23-8 title victory over 50 Kal/Reliant Underground. Avalon Insurance placed third. All three teams were from Florida.

Suncoast/Adidas of Florida also compiled an undefeated weekend. Suncoast beat Fencebrokers of Florida 20-5 and 35-2 in a best-of-three bracket in the **55+ Major Plus** division.

The **55+ Major** title went to Phoenix Tube/REMAX of Florida, which defeated Bond 124/OSS/Phil's 19-13 and 23-19 in another best-of-three bracket.

A Georgia team, Klutch, ([photo below](#)) won the six-team **55/60+ Gold** division but needed two championship games to secure the crown. The top-seeded Top Dawgs of Florida pushed Klutch to the brink by winning the first title game 20-16. But Klutch roared back to capture the second game 22-13. RBC of Florida placed third.



In the four-team **60/65+ Gold** division, Via Citrus 65 defeated Winter Haven Knights 22-12 in the championship game. The Sunshine Sluggers took third. All three are Florida teams.



Edward A. Schultz, 94, of Pompano Beach, Fla., died on Feb. 4, 2022.

Schultz, a longtime member of Senior Softball USA, was a well-known player for Center For Sight championship teams.

“Ed was a mainstay on the Center For Sight championship teams as they progressed through 75s, 80s and 85s”, team manager Hugh Brotherton says. He was a “great player, great person, and a great friend.”

Though he will always be remembered as a beloved Center For Sight team member, he also played with the Tremont Hotel 75s, Deerfield Beach 70s, and Sr Friendship Cntr 70s for a short while.

#### Anita Kemp



Anita Inez Kemp, 62, of Sacramento, CA. died on February 20, 2022.

The Florida Mustangs (photo below) defeated RedHawk Nation of Florida 15-2 and 16-7 to win the two-team **65+ AAA** division.



Venom 75s earned the four-team **70/75+ Platinum** division title by beating Via Citrus 14-3 in the title game. Slug-A-Bug took third. All three are Florida teams.

## Teams From 7 States Win Spring World Title:

By Donna McGuire



Eighteen teams battled their way to first-place awards at the Spring World Championships played in Nevada and Utah from March 18 to 27.

Six winning teams hailed from California, five from Nevada, and three from Colorado.

In addition, one team each from Utah, Arizona, Washington and Oregon won championships in the 129-team event, which featured more than 400 games scheduled across nine days of play.



Kemp, a Senior Softball member since 2015, was a loyal member of the Sacramento based B.O.O.B.S 50s team for years.

"Anita was the ultimate team player and was known for the colorful socks she wore on game days" said her manager, Deanna Sesso. "Whether in the game or not, she did what she could to help the team by coaching bases, attending to player injuries or keeping score. The entire BOOBs 55 team will miss Anita dearly."

"She was an avid competitive softball player and Raiders fan", noted her obituary. When off the field and not watching sports, she enjoyed traveling and spending time with her family.

Before retiring in 2019, she worked at the UC Davis Medical Center for 40 years as a purchasing agent.

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#### David L. McKenna



David (Doc) Lawrence McKenna, 62, of Palo Alto, CA. died on Feb. 22, 2022.

Playing Senior Softball with SSUSA since 2009, McKenna was well-known by many West Coast teams and players.

Starting his career as a dentist, "Dave practiced dentistry at McKenna Family Dentistry in Palo Alto for 35 years, the first 17 years alongside his father", according to his obituary.

He will be remembered by his family and friends for his dental practice, he will also be remembered for his athleticism that lasted all his life.

McKenna played with Twelve Gauge 50s, KM Sportz 50s, Sonoma County Crush 60s, and the East Bay Oldies 50s (which went by McKenna Dentistry/EBO for a short time).

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#### Reginald Landers

"The 2022 Spring Worlds were a great kick-off for the calendar year 2022 season," Tournament Director Dave Dowell said. "Mesquite and St. George offer some of the best fields in the west, befitting the level of play this year."

"Every view from the Canyons Complex is like a Chamber of Commerce post card, with the Little Valley and Bloomington sites right behind. We are already looking forward to and planning next year's return to the St. George region in an expanded tourney presence for 2023."

Four 60+ divisions kicked off the Spring Worlds at two ballparks in Mesquite, Nev., on March 18.

Legacy Sports of Arizona won the **60+ Major Plus** best-of-three format against CornerStone of Oregon with scores of 20-11, 15-20 and 7-0.

Express of California completed an undefeated run through the 11-team **60+ Major** bracket with a 18-1 title game victory over the Sidewinders of Arizona. Peak/Scrap Iron placed third in that division.

In the 13-team **60+ AAA** division, the Northwest Yeahoos won all their pool and bracket games and capped their tournament run with an 18-2 championship game victory over Los Vatos Veijos of Arizona. Los Vatos edged third-place Scrap Iron Heavy Metal 21-20 to reach the title game.

Three teams played in the **60+ AA** division won by SoCal Riptide, which defeated the Arizona Blaze 19-13 for the title. Scrap Iron Rockies took third.

The tournament's second session featured 65+ and older teams playing at parks in St. George, Utah.

Scrap Iron High Octane won the four-team **65+ Major** division with a 18-6 title victory over North Idaho. The Sidewinders from Arizona took third.

Three California teams competed in the **65+/70+ Major Plus** bracket won by Timberworks, which defeated Demolition 20-9 in the championship game. Top Gun Elite finished third.



Reginald "Reggie" Alan Landers, 62, of Virginia Beach, VA. died on Feb. 26, 2022.

Landers will be best remembered as a longtime player and teammate for the Longshoremen 55s team, (ILA 50 before 2015).

According to his obituary, "his team was inducted into the Tidewater Virginia Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame... and had recently traveled to Florida to play in the Tournament of Champions" with Senior Softball USA.

Off the field, Reggie spent most of his time with family and "worked in sales, marketing, management positions and served as a pharmaceutical sales trainer."

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#### John "Romo" Reynero



John "Romo" Reynero, 72, of Buda, Tex. died on Mar. 3, 2022.

Reynero was a longtime Senior Softball coach of the Romo's Derty 55 and 60 teams which were named after him.

"He was a softball legend and spent many years at the softball fields where he would coordinate tournaments and coached", says his obituary.



In the **70+ Major** division, Las Vegas Heat double-dipped the top-seeded Sidewinders of Arizona 20-9 and 22-18 to win the crown after having lost to the same team in pool play. R&R of California took third in the four-team bracket.

In the 12-team **70+ AAA** division, No Guts/No Glory of California ([photo below](#)) finished an undefeated tournament with a 17-15 title game thriller against Nevada's Last Call. Ryan's Wa of Utah won five elimination games before finishing third.



The four-team **75+ Platinum** division ended with a 17-16 championship game nailbiter won by OMEN of California over the Sidewinders of Arizona. That win avenged OMEN's only tournament loss, which happened in pool play. SoCal Gusto took third.

Seven teams played a round-robin format to determine the **75+ AAA** crown. Scrap Iron Diamonds of Colorado earned first place with a 5-1 record, including a 20-12 victory over the second-place St. George Gold, which also went 5-1. Last Call of Nevada nabbed third with a 4-1 record.

Eight teams played in the **80+/85+ Gold** division won by California's undefeated Top Gun Blue Angels, an 85+ team that beat second-place 80+ Balance of Nature from Utah 21-17. Third place went to the 80+ Top Gun Diamond team.

In the three-team **80+ Platinum** division, General Equipment of Oregon defeated Top Gun Gold of California 28-11 to earn the title. Scrap Iron Gray took third.

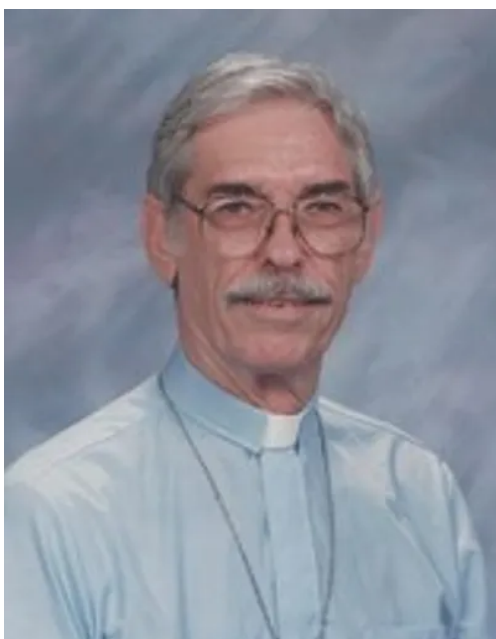
He was also a legend off the softball fields, as “he served...in the Vietnam War and was a Purple Heart recipient.”

Before losing his battle to cancer, he enjoyed taking his family on vacations and worked as a master electrician who helped anyone in need. His big heart and service won't be forgotten.

He also coached/played on the Romo's Old School 55s and Romo's Die Hards 60s.

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**David Melber**



David Wayne Melber, 83, of Austin, Tex., died on Apr. 2, 2022.

Melber, a Senior Softball USA player since 2010, played on numerous teams across Texas.

“He was an avid softball player, participating in Senior Softball-USA National Championship games, and was inducted into the Austin Senior Softball League Hall of Fame”, says his obituary. His athleticism also carried over into “the high jump, long jump, triple jump, hurdles, sprints...and basketball.”

David was a man of numerous hats, having worked as a minister/pastor and worked with Health and Human Services assisting the blind, aged, and disabled. He's also worked as a teacher, professor, author, a political activist having marched with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and as an Elvis impersonator for 40 years.

Melber has played with San Antonio 80s, Antiques of Kansas City 80s, Austin Merchants 70s, Hill Contracting 70s, Outlaws 70s, and the Texas Lone Stars 70s.

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There are a handful of other players who have passed; however we are waiting for more details and services to be released. If you don't see a friend or loved one on here, check the next newsletter edition or you can email us at: [info@seniorsoftball.com](mailto:info@seniorsoftball.com).

The tournament's third session also took place in St. George. It featured the 40+ women's teams and the men's 50+ and 55+ teams.

The Utah Relics won the **women's 40+ Major** division 16-11 and 7-0 in a best-of-three format against Custom Truck of Nevada.

The four-team **women's 40+ AAA** division ended with a one-run title game won by Freak Show ([photo below](#)) of Nevada, 13-12, over Still Got It of Utah. Third place went to Vintage 208.



In the men's **50+ Major** division, Nevada's Battleborn showed grit by winning five close games – none by more than four runs. Battleborn beat Bad Attitude of California 20-17 for the title. Ony of Arizona took third.

Twelve teams competed in the men's **50+ AAA** division won by Damage, a Nevada team that raced through the bracket unbeaten. Damage beat Rock Solid 20-13 for the championship. Team SMS of Nevada took third.

Another Nevada team, PX 40/40, won the eight-team **55+ Platinum** division by beating West Coast Water, also of Nevada, 26-11. PX 40/40 lost one pool game before winning every one of its bracket games by at least five runs. Top-seeded L.A.F. of California placed third.

In a division that highlighted the importance of winning close games, the Bootleggers of Colorado ([photo below](#)) lost both of their **55+ Silver** division pool games before winning their first two bracket games by one run each, 19-18 and 24-23. Two victories later – including a narrow 19-17 title game win – earned them the championship. The Six-Five-Os of California placed second in the six-team bracket. Wilson Motors of Idaho took third.





## 1-Run Games Dominate Tidewater Classic

By Donna McGuire

Fifty-two men's teams from 11 states



converged on Virginia Beach, Va., for Senior Softball USA's Tidewater Classic on March 25-27.

Some of the closest competition occurred in the 40+ divisions where 12 games were decided by one run.

"The Mid-Atlantic 40s division looks like it will be strong this year with a handful of new teams and a number of players moving from one team to another during the off-season," Tournament Director Tim McElroy said.

Session 1 featured the 65+ and 70+ teams. Unfortunately, Mother Nature dampened the second day of play, which meant titles had to be decided based on bracket games finished before the rains arrived.

In the three-team **65+ Major** division, Talaga Construction of Connecticut went 4-0 overall and won the title with a 12-10 victor in its only bracket game. Promotion of New Jersey took second. High Street Bucs of Maryland finished third.

In the three-team **65+/70+ AAA** bracket, the North Virginia Force 65s lost all three of its pool games but won both bracket games it played, 15-14 and 7-3, to claim the title. North Virginia

Force 70s took second. Starboard/OTS of Delaware finished third.

Session 2 featured 42 teams in nine divisions, with teams enduring stiff winds and cool temperatures on the first day of competition.

In a spirited 10-team **40+ Platinum** division, Spirits West/SMC of Maryland lost its first bracket game 22-4 before rattling off victories of 25-10, 22-17, 28-25, 18-3, and 22-21 to reach the championship game. Now it faced Extreme, the Maryland team that had defeated Spirits West in the first round. Spirits West double-dipped Extreme 25-20 and 26-21 for the title. Black Sox of Maryland took third.

Smokin Aces of Virginia ([photo below](#)) won the six-team **40+ AAA** division with a 18-17 championship thriller over Past Our Prime of Virginia. Black Kings of Maryland placed third.



In the **50+ Major** bracket, fifth-seed Freehold Buick/Juno of New Jersey completed an undefeated bracket run with a 27-13 championship victory over second-seeded Gashouse of New York. Freehold Buick averaged 25 runs a game in bracket play. Third place went to KIKU Imp/MY Buddies of New York.

Old Skool/GTS Sports of Pennsylvania lost its first bracket game in the five-team **50+ AAA** division but fought its way back to the title game, where it faced Oessco/Abacus Accounting of Virginia. Old Skool double-dipped Oessco 24-15 and 17-11 to earn the title. Born Free Softball of North Carolina placed third.

Backside, from Virginia, ([photo below](#)) won the three-team **50+/55+ AA** division by defeating another Virginia team, the Longshoremen, 21-18. Harford Financial Group of Maryland placed third.





Top-seeded .50 Core/Mid-Atlantic of Virginia (photo below) won the four-team **55+ Major** division by defeating the Carolina Legends of North Carolina 24-23 in the title game. MFP Thunder of New York took third.



The two **50+AAA** teams, both from Maryland, played a best-of-three format decided by just three total runs. The N.E. Merchants prevailed over BAF/GOATS 20-18 and 15-14.

The Bank from Delaware (photo below) won the three-team **60+ Major** division with a 26-29 victory over the second-place Carolina As of North Carolina. Hamel Builders of Maryland place third.



Seven teams competed in the **60+ AAA** division won by the High Street Bucs, who completed an unbeaten run through the bracket with a 14-13 championship victory over Nova Force of Virginia. Third place went to the Hudson Valley Cyclones of New York.

Contact Information:  
Senior Softball USA  
9823 Old Winery Place, Suite 12

916-326-5303  
info@seniorsoftball.com