

The Sacramento Men's Senior Baseball League

Presents

2022 Hall-of-Fame Induction



September 17, 2022



SMSBL President's Message

Congratulations to 2022 HOF Inductees,

The Sacramento Men's Senior Baseball League is considered one of the premier leagues in the country. You all have been nominated by your peers and selected by the SMSBL HOF Committee. As the President of this league, I am very honored to be leading such quality men.

This league is supported by many board members, HOF Chairman Jim Tygrett- DeNuzzi and his committee. I'd also like to thank the countless volunteers that have made this league special. I'd especially like to say "Thank You" to my wife Teena Van Ness our Hall of Fame Event Chairperson. She always strives to make the HOF ceremony a successful and memorable event. I hope you and your families enjoy this

prestigious honor you are given today. Thank you as well for the many years of quality baseball. You have all represented Sacramento MSBL with class.

Respectfully,

Alan Van Ness
SMSBL President

To: All 2022 Sacramento MSBL Hall of Fame Inductees

From: Steve Sigler, MSBL National President and Founder

Congratulations on your 2022 Hall of Fame Induction!

Annually, the Sacramento MSBL honors those whose contributions to the league on and off the field are noteworthy.

You join an outstanding group and you have helped create a legacy that will continue on for decades.

Hope you enjoy the evening and congratulations again!





Dave Absher

Dave was born into a military family on September 27th, 1966 in Zweibrucken Germany. His love for the game of baseball began at an early age as he shadowed his father from field to field on a regular basis. His first taste of organized baseball began at the age of six on the Fort Lee Virginia Army Base. His family moved back to Zweibrucken, Germany in 1974. He recounts the difficulty of playing overseas on a smaller army base. Because there were not enough kids, the age groups were unusually broad: 6 to 8-year-olds played t-ball, 9 to 13-year-olds played the next level, and finally 14 to 18-year-olds played together. Going from an 8-year-old playing t-ball to a 9-year-old facing 13-year-old pitching was quite a jump. Dave's family would eventually and permanently land in Sacramento, California. In May of 1977, his father was stationed on the Sacramento Army Depot. Dave continued his

love for the game playing in both organized baseball at Parkway Little League in South Sacramento and countless pick-up baseball games throughout the summer months. When in High School, he opted out of playing the sport that was so dear to his heart so that he could work and earn money. He would later say "the decision to work over baseball was probably the single worst decision that I have made in my lifetime." After High School he started playing organized baseball in the local Land Park Sunday leagues in the late 1980's. His first taste in the MSBL league was in 1995 with the Sacramento Cubs. In the early 2000's he played in the open division with the Sacramento A's. From there he played with countless teams and is currently playing for the Royals, Giants and Bulldogs. Dave has won a Arizona MSBL World Series Championship ring with the Giants in 2011 and a Florida MSBL Fall Classic Championship ring with the Royals in 2017. He has coached High School Baseball for Cosumnes Oaks High School from 2014 to 2021. He is married to his wife Denise of 32 years and has two children, son Jacob and daughter Jennifer. His love of baseball was passed down to Jacob who played throughout his childhood, into High School, and best-of-all, in father-son tournaments. Passing down the love of the game to the next generation is something that Dave values as player and father because in the words of Pat Gillick, "Baseball is about talent, hard work, and strategy. But at the deepest level, it's about love, integrity, and respect".



Larry Donaghey

Since Larry is no longer with us, we've put together his biography based on family reports, and managers and teammates contributing. Larry was one of the SMSBL originals. He pitched and played for many teams in league including Jerry Karnow's Phillies, a fraternity of many who've played with the Mets, and in the twilight of his career the 60+ Yankees managed by Rick Salmeri.

He won National Championships with the Sacramento Majik managed by John Rice. He's won those championships in both the top National Division and the American Division at the MSBL Phoenix World Series. John likes to tell the story of Larry pitching, struggling, and getting removed from the first game of a doubleheader at the World Series and John telling him "don't worry, you're starting the second game too, so be ready". All Larry did the second game was pitch a complete game

victory. He was a competitor, quality pitcher and athlete. And a gentleman on the field of play, quiet but aggressive when he needed to be.

Larry was a United States Navy veteran, serving on the USS Oriskany Aircraft Carrier during the Vietnam War, and a proud Vietnam Veteran. He was laid to rest at the Sacramento Valley Veterans Cemetery in Dixon, Ca. As Larry's pitching career progressed his favorite catcher was SMSBL Hall of Famer Dave Harden and they became fast friends both on and off the playing field. After a short hiatus from playing, Larry, and knowing his prognosis, contacted Rick Salmeri his Yankee manager, confided with Rick who welcomed him back, and played his final season with the 60+ Yankees despite the fact he was actively losing his battle with cancer. Tonight we celebrate one of our SMSBL originals, we will miss him but he will always be remembered with a position on the SMSBL HALL OF FAME PLAQUE.



Eric Guimont

Eric was born in Van Nuys, California in 1965. He played Culver City Little League and was fortunate to make the All-Star team in '77 and '78. After moving to Elk Grove in middle school, he played Elk Grove Babe Ruth. Then, lettered in soccer and baseball at Elk Grove High School. He began working after graduating and playing typical slow pitch. He even dabbled in some fast pitch softball where he played with friends from his high school. In 2005 Eric got back into baseball after an invitation from Rick Crump to play on Jeff Turner's Cubs. This is when his SMSBL experience began. After being on the Cubs for five years, he put together an EG team with Rick Crump, Darin Boyd and John Daly. After a couple of years with the EG team, the players from the old Cubs team got back together, forming the Rockets, headed by Allan Van Ness, where good success was had as the team won some championships throughout Eric's years there. Following the Rockets, Eric played on various teams including the Cardinals with Derek Bullock, and the Sunday Dragons led by Larry Whitmer. Later, Eric joined his three current teams the Free Agents, the Bombers, and the Dirtbags. Eric's SMSBL career also included tournament teams, World Series trips, and Father-Son. Among the tournament teams, Eric played for the Rockets, the Braves and the Father-Son Capitals and is currently on the Cannons. One of Eric's favorite memories was when he was invited to Florida with the Royals, managed by Jim Tygrett, where they took second. Eric was honored to be awarded team MVP. Throughout Eric's time dedicated to sports, his wife Charity managed to stay married to him while they raised four kids, Ben, Tim, Joe and Sera. He was able to integrate his love for sports into spending time with family by coaching his kids when they were young on various sport teams. As they grow older, however, his love for baseball lives on.



Jim Marquardsen

Jim was born and raised in the Land Park area of South Sacramento. Growing up there, he played football, basketball, and baseball. He began his junior year at Christian Brother's High school but was in a serious car accident which ended his high school sports ambitions. After high school, Jim took up bowling and is proud to mention that he has a high 3 game series of 794 as well as 6 perfect games (300) to his credit.

Jim started coaching when his kids started playing competitively in the early 90's. His son Jimmy Jr was in baseball and basketball and daughter Amanda played basketball. Coaching his kids led Jim to the ranks of high school and travel baseball coach, respectively. He has coached at Rio Americano High, El Camino High, The Sacramento Wolverines travel baseball club, and in the East Sac Babe Ruth league.

Jim has been playing SMSBL since 1996, when his brother Jerry (HOF Class of 2019) asked if he wanted to start playing baseball again? A quick "okay" was his reply and he has been playing ever since. Jim is grateful to have played with a lot of talented players over the course of his men's league career. Jim has won two national championships and five Woodland/Davis Labor Day tournaments. Throw in a Sea Otter title in Monterey, a Las Vegas tourney title and many league championships too! But Jim knows that without the talent surrounding him, he never would have accomplished any of this. He would like all his fellow players to know that he is ever so grateful for all they have done for him.

Despite all the success Jim has had, one of the top moments came early in his career. It was while he was playing for the 18+ open A's. His nephew JR Marquardsen was on third, Jim was on second and Jerry was on first when Jim's son, Jimmy Jr. came to the plate. There it was! Four Marquardsens, one on each base, and the youngest Marquardsen at bat. Low and behold Jimmy Jr. came through with a hit to score two runs. After the game they all realized that special moment would be hard to duplicate. And to this day, it has never happened again.



Rick Mejia

Rick grew up in South Central Los Angeles during tumultuous times of national civil unrest and the Vietnam War. He attended Inglewood High School and played baseball and it was there he loved the game and excelled to the level of being named to the CIF All Southern Calif. All-star team along with MLB Hall of Famer George Brett and other future major league ballplayers. After high school baseball, his future would be life changing for a number of reasons. Pepperdine University baseball coach Wayne Wright gave Rick the opportunity to excel further and gave him a four year scholarship and the opportunity to start all four years at left field. While at Pepperdine he met his bride of nearly 50 years and he renewed his Christian faith.

In his freshman year, Rick hit .333 and missed the batting title by 2 pts. His senior year was culminated and highlighted by being on the first ever Championship team for Pepperdine in Malibu, Ca. They were ranked tenth in the nation and were matched against national champion USC in the NCAA district playoffs in 1974 to determine who would play in the NCAA world series. He hit .300 in the playoffs and robbed Rich Dauer (former Baltimore Orioles 3rd baseman) of a home run by leaping over the top of the wall to make the catch. His team went on to win that game with a walk off home run but lost the series to USC who went on to repeat as National Champions in 1974.

After college, Rick married and moved to Sacramento while his teammates, Mike Scott, played MLB and won the Cy Young Award for the Astros and Rob Piciollo became shortstop for the Oakland As. Surprisingly, 20 years later, while playing for his current team the Nationals, Rick would reunite with a manager of his former Mariners team and has also played for the A's. Rick joined the upstart Mariners in the Mariners second year 1994 to 2002 then the Mariners dissolved. Soon after Rick joined on with Joe Soto - Pat Kelly Sacramento A's from 2003 - 2017. Rick and his son Ty played on Hall of Famer Derrick Bullock's Capital Cardinals World Series National Level Father Son team and they were both an instrumental contributing player on the Cardinals 2008 National Championship team.

Now after 28 years playing SMSBL, Rick is grateful and thankful to the board and appreciative to all his former and current teammates to be part of a special baseball experience and honor in being inducted into the Sacramento MSBL Hall of Fame. And most importantly, a special thanks to his wife Chi for putting up with watching Rick play baseball for over 50 years.



Craig Parker

Craig Parker began his love for baseball at the age of six growing up in Sutter Creek. He played Little League, Senior Little League, Junior Varsity and Varsity Baseball for Amador High School (League Champions in 1972), and Babe Ruth. In 1974 he was named outstanding third baseman in the State Tournament while playing for A.G. Spanos of Stockton. Craig went on to play college baseball for American River College Placerville in 1974 and 1975. As a Sophomore playing under first year Head Coach and fellow SMSBL Hall of Famer Hal Young, Craig was named Outstanding Defensive Player on a team that recorded first ever wins over ARC Sacramento, Sacramento City, Sac State Junior Varsity and UC Davis Junior Varsity Teams. In 1993, following pitching in Sarasota in an Orioles Fantasy Camp, Craig was asked to play in the Men's League on an team that included Fellow SMSBL Hall of Famer Mike Baker. Thirty

years Later, Craig has now pitched 3,800 innings, recorded 268 wins, struck out 1,920 batter while just walking 580 and posting a career ERA of 3.87.

Craig has been on five MSBL League Championship teams in 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, and 2016 all with the Orioles. In addition, Craig has been on two World Series Championship Teams, once in Phoenix and once in Clearwater Florida with a team from Baltimore. He has had the opportunity to pitch at Doubleday field in Cooperstown New York twice, and Camden Yards twice with a Non Roster team from Baltimore. Being able to play baseball in the SMSBL, competing against such a wealth of baseball talent in the Sacramento area and continuing a "for love of the game" has been an experience of a lifetime.



Guillermo Roses

Guillermo started taking ground balls around 7 years old. His father wanted him to be a shortstop. After taking a few hops off his face, he decided that he liked the outfield.

Guillermo started on a tee ball team at 9 years old. Coach asked us all where we wanted to play. We know what most kids chose. Guillermo chose left field and coach said it was all yours.

Guillermo didn't play baseball when he was 10 or 11 but did sign up at age 12 and got on the Red Sox's. That was a memorable season. His buddies were on the Red Sox's, but they had the second pick in the draft. So Guillermo, wanting to play with his buddies, didn't do his best at the tryouts and it worked. He got drafted by the Red Sox's, and his team ended up winning first place. That memorable season he

batted lead off and played left field.

He attended Westminster High in Orange County and played high school baseball all four years. Guillermo had an excellent season as a senior. In the first couple weeks of the season he got hot and was hitting over 600 and landed top five in the newspaper listings. Guillermo ended the year with a .485 avg. He made first team all league and third team all county.

Guillermo went on to play at Cypress Junior College and then on to Sacramento State. He was part of the 1988 team that won the western region and then went to the D II College World Series. It was a great experience, and he is so thankful to have been a part of that team.

He got involved in the SMSBL when he was 27 years old. He played in the 30 and over division with his buddy Jeff Turner and Bob Eisleman who was the coach. He was part of the 1999 Giants American Championship MSBL with Bill Rockefeller and also the 2010 Giants Championship in the National Division MSBL with Javier Campos. There was another championship in 2007 in Arizona.

During his years with the SMSBL, he's hit for the cycle 5 for 5, and he has played with the following teams: Cardinals, Rangers, Cubs, Rockets and Bombers. This year he played with the Giants / Royals in the Spring and the Indians/ Free Agents in the Summer. To sum it all up, he loves the game of baseball. He loves the competition, his teammates, the relationships he has made and mostly the laughs that have been shared.

As special as the SMSBL has been to his life in Sacramento, more special is that he met Amy at Sac State and got married in 1992. They will be married 30 years on September 19th. They have three lovely daughters Emma, Hannah, and Bella and they have both enjoyed watching their daughters play many sports along the way.

Guillermo would like to thank Val & Ann Lewis, Bill Illif, all his teammates, coaches, competitors, Alan Van Ness League President, Board Members, and the HOF Committee. I am lucky to be a part of this organization.



SMSBL HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

Jim Tygrett-DeNuzzi Chairman, Teena Van Ness HOF Event Chair

Val Lewis, Jerry Karnow, Jim Lortz, Lanny Ropke, Alan Van Ness, Ken Chavez

Steve Welch, Gary Stonebrook, John Rice, Phil Gelhaus



Scott Stevens

Scott grew up in Michigan and got started in sports as soon as he was old enough to pick up a bat and ball and football, and later a basketball. Football and baseball were always his favorites though. He started playing organized baseball when he was eight, but had been practicing in the back yard with his dad and brother long before that. Scott's dad coached a 10u, 12u and 14u teams in Battle Creek, and Scott didn't make the cut for 10u his first year, so he played in the Pennfield little league, with the Cubs no less and played shortstop (team he plays and manages now in 60+). After 14u, he continued with summer baseball and was playing organized football starting in 8th grade. He played football, basketball and baseball during his four years in high school and baseball during the summers. His last three years in high school, he was switched from infield to centerfield and was the leadoff hitter. He was recruited to play football and baseball in college, and chose the DII football route at Michigan Technological University as a wide receiver, and loved it. He was a redshirt freshman and lettered and started the next four years, leading the team in receptions his Jr and Sr year.

After graduation and attending a federal law enforcement academy, he started working for the federal government, working in MI, NY, PA, SoCal, WA, NV and then Sacramento. He always seemed to find a softball team in most of the places including Sacramento. Scott saw an ad for baseball tryouts in 2009 so attended the session, and has been playing ever since. He's been with the Timberwolves, Phillies, Seals, Royals, Free Agents, and tournaments with the Seals, Royals, Bombers, SoCal Trojans, Blue Jays and Giltner Dodgers. And he currently manages the Winter Seals, Summer Seals and 60+ Cubs.

In just the last three years (plus spring 2022) he's played in over 300 baseball games. Guess you could say, he likes to play ball! But more importantly, he says it's not just about playing the game, it's about the friendships and camaraderie developed with both teammates and opponents. There have been many championships with these teams and Scott has the utmost respect and admiration for all those he has played with and against over the years. And he hopes to continue with those friendships for a long, long time. And most important, many, many thanks to his biggest supporter and fan, his lovely wife, Nina.



CURRENT SMSBL HOF NOMINATED LIST

George Esposito*, Mark Fowler, Vic Wooten, Ron Turner, Jim Milligan,
Troy Nogosek, Mike Lehtola, Mike Spitek, Frank Smith-Bartucco, Mark McGushin,
Rob Ericsson, Lou Abedesco, Mike Wright, Ernie Hook, Mike Wilson,
Greg Yardley, Rick Salmeri, Dan Pool

*Deceased



Past President's Comments

Val Lewis-(1984-1990)

Congratulations to all 2022 SMSBL Hall-of-fame inductees! You have been voted in to a wonderful fraternity of great guys and baseball players. We are honored to welcome you to be part of a great tradition.

Jerry Karnow-(1991-2002)

Congratulations to our new 2022 Sacramento MSBL Hall of Fame inductees. You can be very proud joining this highly esteemed class of Hall of Famers. Also, many thanks to all who have supported these deserving men. Again, welcome to all of our member inducted into this years Hall of Fame.

Jim Lortz-(2004-2008)

It was an honor and a privilege for me to have been your President for four years. Now as a member of the SMSBL Hall of Fame, I would suggest that each and everyone of you strive for that honor. As for those being inducted, you are as special to this Club as the honors bestowed to you on this special occasion. To the new Hall of Fame inductees, welcome to the Club! It is now our responsibility to maintain and improve The Hall of Fame membership through your input, sponsorship and support. Congratulations!

Lanny Ropke (2008-2009)

Welcome to the 16th SMSBL Hall of Fame induction dinner. Congratulations to this years inductees. Having been recommended by your peers, and met long established qualifications, you join an impressive list in our Hall of Fame. As new members, join with us in perpetuation of this organization, sharing the friendships, memories, and the camaraderie for years to come. This is a very special group. We hope you, your family and friends, enjoy this special night our committee has prepared for you.

Jim Tygrett-DeNuzzi-(2009-2013, 2014-2015)

Congratulations to this year's SMSBL Hall of Fame Class of 2022. It's an honor to welcome you, celebrate with you, and share your well deserved induction tonight with you and your family. You've been nominated by your peers for your ability, outstanding contributions to the game of baseball, and positive efforts put forth to your community.

In Memory	Inducted	Last at Bat
Ken Papini	2011	2008
Dennis Viegas	2011	2011
Dale Hall	2007	2012
Bobby Alonso	2014	2013
Mark Crump	2015	2015
Ted Bofinger	2007	2017
Tim Day	2016	2018
Pete Snyder	2019	2018
Larry Donaghey	2022	2019
Jim Hill	2007	2020
Steven Goggans	2020	2020
John Daly	2021	2021
Gary Kleinfeldt	2014	2021
Clay Sigg	2008	2022