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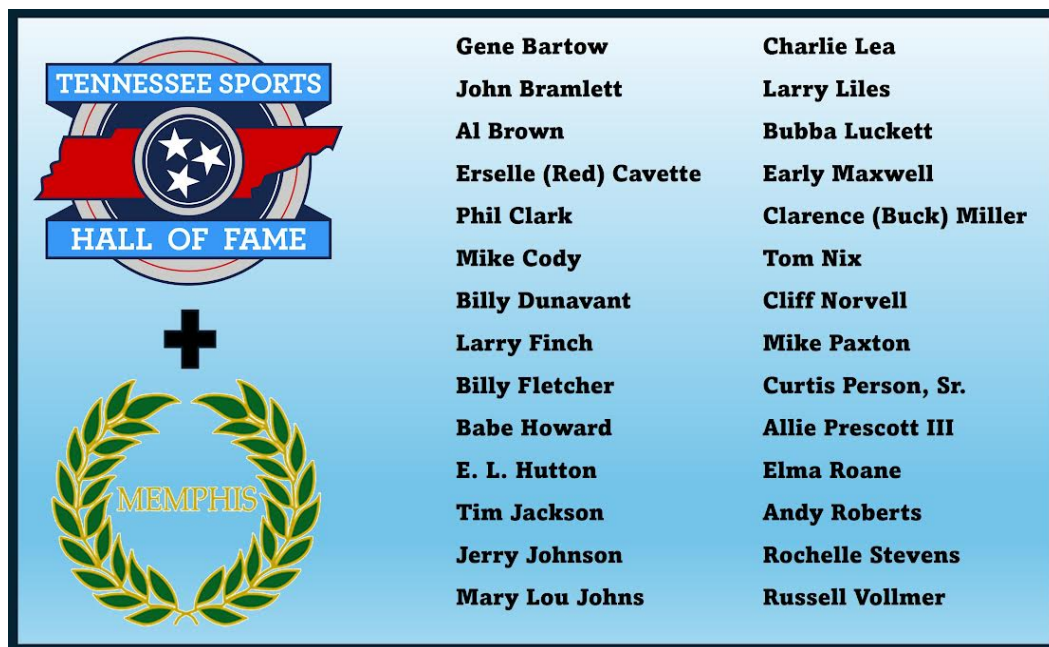


Welcome to the MASHOF News From the Hall of Fame newsletter #3! If this is your first time to see the newsletter, be aware that both previous and upcoming newsletters will be housed on the MASHOF website, and you can click on the link below to view them. And along the way, if you have comments, improvements or suggestions for future newsletters, feel free to send your comments to mashofnewsletter@gmail.com

[Newsletters Link](#)

DOUBLE PLAY MASHOF MEMBERS

Were you aware there are 29 MASHOF members who have also been inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame? Doubling up in the best possible way for sure! These great sports legends are proudly listed below:



In addition, MASHOF member Bubba Luckett will be inducted to TSHOF July 11, expanding the list above



For those of you who may have missed the last newsletter, welcome to a new section where we will spotlight a member of MASHOF each or most issues. This is a place to honor and remember MASHOF members and their varied sporting and contributory accomplishments. This issue, we are pleased to honor Early Maxwell who was inducted into MASHOF in 1987. And he was the first inductee into the Personal Contributor category as well.



EARLY MAXWELL
Nationally Known

Mr. Maxwell was also inducted previously into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1967 for his many contributions to both Memphis and Tennessee sports history. TSHOF summarized his accomplishments below:

MAXWELL, EARLY



BIOGRAPHY

Early Maxwell gave so much to Tennessee sports throughout his sixty-one years. Whether as an athlete, sports writer, promoter, manager, or publicist, he always gave his all. Born in 1905 in Colorado, Maxwell and his family soon moved to Memphis, where he would remain for the rest of his life. His interest in sports encompassed tennis (he was a city champion), football, basketball, track, boxing, horse racing (he attended thirty-four consecutive Kentucky Derbies), and softball. In the late twenties, Maxwell promoted the Memphis Tigers, a pro football team that defeated Green Bay and Chicago on consecutive Sundays. He became a sports writer for the "Commercial Appeal", and in the early thirties he was sports editor of the "Evening Appeal." Shortly after, he was named promotions editor of the "Commercial Appeal", a job he held until World War II. After the war, he formed Early Maxwell Associates, an advertising and public relations firm, where he was senior partner for twenty-one years until his death. His firm helped Memphis build two fine facilities – the Mid-South Coliseum and Memphis Memorial Stadium. He also handled the personal management of Dr. Cary Middlecoff and brought the great Ben Hogan to Tennessee for a series of unforgettable exhibition golf matches. Maxwell's accounts included, among many others, the Memphis Open Golf Tournament and the Liberty Bowl. His life was certainly a full one. From athlete to reporter, from promoter to fan, Early Maxwell was a true friend to Tennessee sports.

Not mentioned above is that Mr. Maxwell's driving vision and work to establish both the Mid-South coliseum and the Memphis Memorial stadium resulted in Early Maxwell Boulevard. It was clearly the "main street" of the Mid-South Fairgrounds (now Liberty Park) and has likely been walked on by most Memphians and countless mid-southerners. It was unveiled on April 28, 1967 with the newspaper headline reading "Early Maxwell Boulevard is Paved With Gratitude."



Early Maxwell died Nov. 7, 1966, leaving behind an incredible legacy as seen in the Press Scimitar obituary article (in link one below). We are proud to honor him here as well!

For some excellent additional information and pictures regarding Early Maxwell and his illustrious history, please click the links below:

[Early Maxwell Historical Pictures and Memorabilia](#)

[Early Maxwell Career](#)

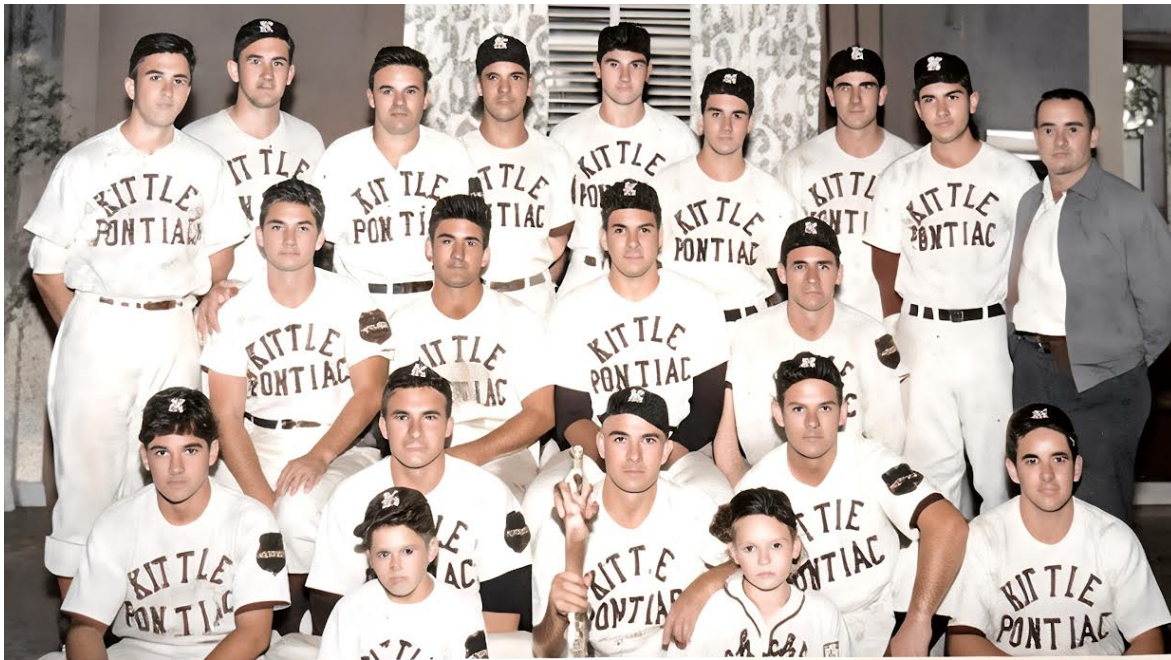
TONY WALSH



MASHOF member, Tony Walsh (game official), has been selected for induction into the 2026 class of College Baseball Hall of Fame (umpire) on 2/11/27 at Overland Park Kansas. He began his umpiring career on Memphis baseball and softball fields. He went on to umpire division 1 collegiate baseball from 1979-2022, including six College World Series. He leads all umpires for number of SEC games umpiring. Keep calling 'em like you see 'em Tony! Congratulations!

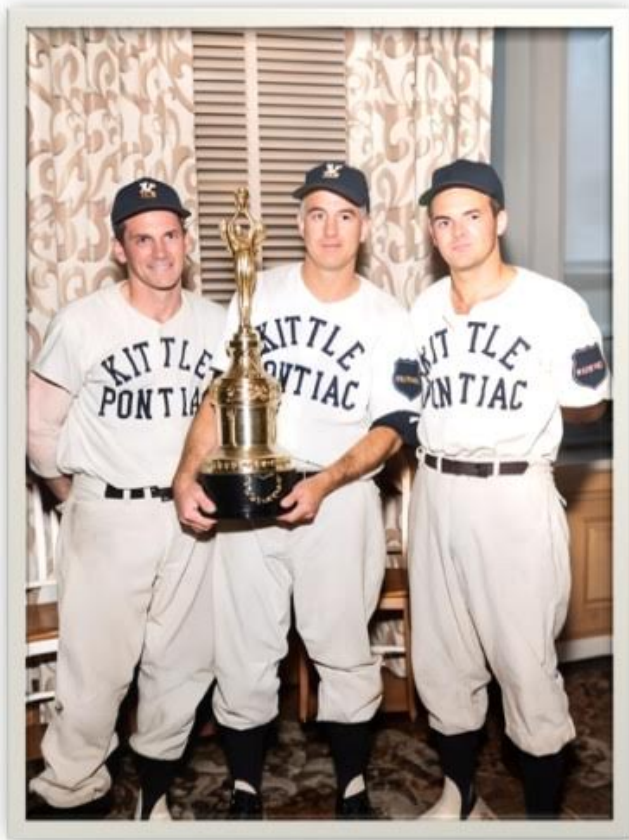


The 1958 Kittle Pontiac baseball team won the NABF Senior/Major Division World Series, which is the oldest continuously run amateur baseball tournament in the United States. Kittle Pontiac succeeded Lorain, Ohio's "National Tube" (1957 champion). An amazing 11 members of this championship team are members of MASHOF - Joe Wesche Sr, Joe "Bubba" Wesche Jr, Bobby Dunavant, Sid Gray, Pete Aviatti, Dennis Wan, Bob Crone, Curtis King, Bill Briggs, Bill Milligan, Jack Cade! Wow! It's been 68 years since they proudly hoisted the trophy below - About time to celebrate once again!



**1958 NATIONAL AMATEUR BASEBALL FEDERATION SENIOR CHAMPIONS
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

Seated in front: Bat Boys **Joe Wesche, Jr.** and **Ronnie Ray**. Front row: **Gene Gianinni**, **Bob Dunnivant**, **Manager Joe Wesche, Sr.**, **Sid Ray** and **Pete Aviatti**. Center row: **Guido Grilli**, **Dennis Wan**, **Bob Crone** and **Curtis King**. Back row: **Jimmy Brock**, **Mel Green**, **Bill Briggs**, **Roy Johnson**, **George Inman**, **Bill Causer**, **Bill Milligan**, **Jack Cade** and Trainer **Clyde Parris**.



From L to R - Curtis King, Joe Wesche, Bill Briggs

2026 GOLF TOURNAMENT

 *Amateur Sports
Hall of Fame*

**2026 Annual Golf
Tournament**

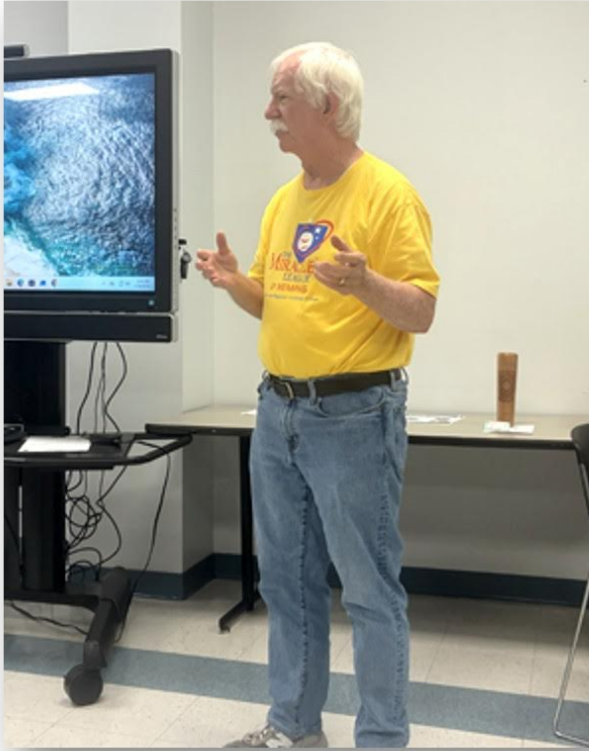
**Links at Galloway
Golf Course**

**3815 Walnut Grove Road
Memphis, TN**

October 9, 2026

Stay tuned! More information to come later this year. Note that the tournament is typically a morning shotgun start followed by award ceremonies in the afternoon. In the meantime, dust off your golf clubs and hit the driving range!

MAY 18 MEMBERS MEETING



The speaker for our May 18 meeting was Eddie Hatcher the Executive Director of the Miracle League of Memphis. For those who might not know, the Miracle League nationwide program was organized to create a recreational “destination” for individuals with disabilities and special needs – both children and adults. This includes specially designed sports fields for baseball, soccer and other sports as well as a large inclusive playground, and special pavilions for families to gather and celebrate.



For more information on this special organization please click on the link below:

[*Miracle League of Memphis*](#)

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING - JULY 20

The speaker at our next member meeting will be MASHOF member Hank McDowell. Hank went to Treadwell High School, played basketball and won the state championship in 1981. He went on to play basketball at Memphis State and then enjoyed a 7 year career in the NBA. For 26 years he was also a radio and TV commentator for the University of Memphis as well as the Memphis Grizzlies. We are sure he will have much to tell regarding his great career.



Date: July 20, 2026

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Memphis Police Department

**Address: [6850 Appling Farms Pkwy, Memphis, TN](#)
(click address for map directions)**



IN MEMORIAM

Please remember these legendary Hall members who have sadly passed away this year.....





*Amateur Sports
Hall of Fame*

Board of Directors

President:	Lynn Alford
Vice President:	Jan Averwater
Treasurer:	Dan Richards
Secretary:	Mark McDonald
Past President:	Paul Holt

Committee Chairs

Golf:	Steve Ganong
Banquet:	Jan Averwater
Nominations:	Lynn Alford
Membership:	Mark McDonald
Scholarship:	Dan Richards

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