

**Russ (The Colonel) Miller**  
**May 26th, 2001**  
**Northwest Hall of Fame Induction**







### RUSS (THE COLONEL) MILLER

Russ Miller was born in 1941, in a farmhouse, in Utopia Wa., in East Skagit County. His Parent's Clyde and Hazel Siddens moved the family to San Diego, it was there he graduated from Jr. High as an Honor Student. He later graduated H.S. back in Washington at Mt. Vernon. Russ was first introduced to Shuffleboard by his brother Neil, and his friend Wes Warner from Kansas City. Games then were 21 pt., keep hammer. He started off free-hand and made a few good shots!! A fellow player named Lesley said "you're a natural", and Russ was hooked on the game. In 1963 Russ was back in Washington, and played on a league as a Sub. While tending bar at the Silver Dollar, he convinced owner Dave Archer to have a team, the team did well and ..... as happens so often in this game, Dave Archer was hooked!! It was Dave who gave Russ Miller the name we know and love him by today THE COLONEL.

In 1964 Russ met the woman of his dreams, the woman he would spend his life with. Miss Sheridan Shadduck, (Sue) and together they raised three children, Russell, Rebecca and Sherry. Russ managed to work at Oil refinery's, some commercial fishing, (oh doe's he have some fishing stories!!) went to school to be a locksmith and have his own welding business for awhile, raise his family, and still had time to commit his time, love, compassion, knowledge of the true meaning to the word's "friendship through competition", to us, his "extended family", for that we are richer people. The Colonel has continued to play shuffleboard for 40 yrs. and has accomplishments all over the country, not only playing the game but promoting the game, helping it to grow, and nurturing his students in teaching them to love the game, respect the game a others, and those are the traits of a "true lover of the game". One of the event's Russ is proud to have helped orchestrate is the 'Can-Am' get together between shooters from Canada & the U.S.. The Colonel & Gordy Smith, (among others) coordinated this tourney to 6 person teams, on 6 boards, until there were about 75 shooters and even spectators making the trip to be a part of this historical event. Russ remembers many handshakes across the boarder line taking place in these event's.

Russ has traveled extensively since his first road trip in 1989 to play at the first PCSA tournament in Vegas at the Showboat casino, in 1985. He totally enjoyed going to Bourbon Indiana in 1995, as on the trip once the group of wayward travelers left Washington they never shut the engine off in Russ's van until they arrived in Bourbon.

In 1996, Colonel traveled to the "Dixie Bell" in Downey, Ca.. He has also been in tourney's in Oregon and most of the local tournament's in the Great Northwest. He has attended all of the Reno North American event's, with the exception of one. A few of his more recent travels has taken him to Del City, OK, Where the Southwest Open was both \*memorable" & \*profitable'. The Colonel is famous for his "liquid apple pie" and his "special cherry's.

His loves are, His wife and family, shuffleboard and that family, hunting, fishing, and the traveling he & Susie have been blessed with in their motorhome.





### **The Colonel**

Colonel, ole buddy, congratulations. I'm so pleased you're getting a chance to hear our thoughts about you. So many memories, so many stories. The 20 year run at the Fir Cone with River is legendary. The Corner Tavern years, Quilly and so many more, but I've boiled it down to Dell City in 199.

Grant Manning, John Fisher, the Colonel and I played on a four man team. The Colonel met us, for the team meeting, with his typical warm, slightly mischievous smile. You know that "come hither look, let's go someplace special today?" That morning, maybe laced with a touch of trepidation, the Colonel played fine Shuffleboard and as the wins were racked up, that look grew into 'this is doable, let's get after it". As evening waned, with a long list of vanquished opponents and the application of his Hall of Fame knowledge of the fermentation sciences, that look on the Colonels face became the embodiment of why we play this game. The 100% joy of being completely immersed in the moment. The triumph of the subconscious over the mind.....



I'm sitting on the other end listening to the big guns of the Southwest mumbling "WHO IS THIS GUY?", how can that unorthodox style produce some of the prettiest weights that ever left a players hand? It is a moment I truly cherish. It's been an honor to play with you. It's been an honor to know you. It's been an honor to share that Cherubic glow at 1:59 am or 8:00 am for a toddy in a dusty parking lot. You are a Hall of Fame person and well deserving of this acknowledgement from your peers,

Thank-you Colonel. Loren

For the last 3 or so years I have had the honor and the privilege of having Russ Miller as my Partner at my "home" Memorial Day tournament. There's no better friend, and no better man. Thank-You Colonel.

Ron Graff

For the last 6 to 7 years I have watched A LOT of Shuffleboard in A LOT of city's across the country. Of all the spectacular game's I have watched one spectacular man has stood out to me as the most sportsman like gentle man. Beside him is an awesome woman, with enough of a "spirited side" to allow him to be that gentle man. We (the whole shuffleboard family) love you both.

God Bless You Both,  
Melody

Colonel, Thanks for being my partner in Vegas, and also Thank-You for the many time's you have been my opponent. And thanks most of all Colonel for the memories!!

Billy Powell

From the Swallow Tavern in Mt. Vernon, and a home & home against the White Elephant in 1971 to 2001 has been 30 years of great friendship & competition. You deserve this honor.

John Martin

Moonshine Oh Moonshine, Oh I Love Ye It's the Old Irish Broad, Oh can't Ye see I Love You Russ, come play with me.

Your Ever Loving Crazy Irish Friend,  
Joanie Millar  
XOXOXO

Russ Miller is a true Prince among men. Playing Shuffleboard, if Russ puts his heart into it, you better just run for cover. I am very proud to call Russ Miller my friend & am very happy to see him inducted into our Hall of Fame.

Darrol Nelson

Russ; Congratulations on your induction into the Pacific Northwest Hall of Fame. You are one of the most level headed men I have had the pleasure of knowing. Playing Shuffleboard as your partner and as your opponent has been a fulfilling experience. You are truly one of the great ones in our Shuffleboard family.

Frank Mako

I recall the 1st time I met Russ . . . Jimmy Allis's motorhome was stuffed full of players exaggerating stories of shuffleboard prowess in 1992. Just as another story was getting started, Russ Miller popped his head through the motorhome door. I remember the way everyone "Lit Up" with smiles to greet him. I had a deep sense of the respect given him by his peers. Soon after being introduced I understood why. In a matter of minutes I felt as if I had known him all my life. I felt "connected" to him by his genuine friendliness. Only "Old Souls" demand that sort of appreciation & respect. I would like to speak for the shuffleboard community and offer congratulations to Russ for his achievements and contributions to the shuffleboard world ON AND OFF the board. Your induction Russ is a thrill for all of us. We appreciate your sharing yourself with us in Southern Oregon.

Steve Fisher



Russ & I have played together as doubles partners more years than we both care to admit, (20 years as partners at the Fir Come in Shelton, WA.) we played together in Washington, Oregon, Canada, A Nevada. Even though we never won a tournament together we did get in the money several times; however, we ALWAYS HAD A GOOD-TIME !!! A person could not ask for a better friend or shuffleboard partner than Russ Miller.

Jerry ( Upriver) Ledent

There is no doubt Russ is one of the better players in the Northwest, but more important than that is the type of person Russ is. He is the most friendly, easy to get along with person in the world. He makes friends wherever he goes. His enthusiasm for the game of shuffleboard is unequalled for this reason. We all should think of Russ as the Good Will Ambassador of shuffleboard

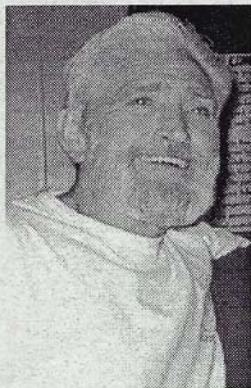
Larry Sawyer

When I first met you Colonel, I had locked my keys in my car. Jeff Adams said the Colonel was a locksmith, so he went to talk to him. Russ said he would do get his tools & would do it in the morning. Needless to say, he went out & partied and never made it home. He slept in his truck . . . So he said he would do it in a little while. Well he got involved playing shuffleboard, but by the evenings end he walked right up and handed me my keys at the Corner Tavern. Needless to say the Colonel always comes through with flying colors. So... 2 weeks later at BZ's I brought him his favorite as a Thank-You for helping out someone he barely knew, a 5th of Crown Royal.

Sharon McDonald

I had been playing about 4 months when I played my first tourney in 1990. I came to Spokane's Memorial Day event with no partner, no one really knew me. The Colonel volunteered to play with me. We didn't really do much in the tourney but I learned that weekend that Russ Miller was a true gentle man and would do ANYTHING to help ANYONE. We hooked up again in 2000 at Del City and got a third in the doubles. Russ Miller is a true supporting friend of Shuffleboard and definitely deserves this recognition and honor.

Dan Hit



**Russ & Bill West at the Corner Taverns was one of Russ' first wins.**

**1995 Russ & Gordy Smith Won the doubles event at the Tolo in Central Point Oregon.**

**1999 Russ & Harvey Comer (Maryland) won the "Legends" event in Las Vegas.**

**Russ was on a team captained by John Martin, they took 2nd in Las Vegas.**

**Russ & Dan Hitt in Del City, OK took third in pro-doubles.**

**Russ was on a team, captained by Nick Chaffin of California, that took 2nd in doubles in Reno.**

**Russ & Billy Powell took second in doubles in Reno.**

**Russ & Jim Kyle took 2nd in doubles at Edison one year.**

**Russ was "in the money" in many tournaments including doubles, singles, mixed events & team events.**

**Moonshine. Russ was famous for having a little moonshine available at many tournaments particularly those in his local area, the Corner Tavern in Edison. Several local shooters owe Russ for their success at these tournaments.**



