

Bill Van Dine, Rock Island, IL / Sun City, FL

A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, Bill Van Dine organized and coached the Rock Island Legion baseball teams for a number of years. He started playing softball as a teenager with Coleman Florist. He was also director of nine world softball tournaments, in Rock Island's Douglas Park, as the ISC called Rock Island, IL home for the 1960s. After retiring to Sun City Center, Fla., Bill was appointed as the State of Florida Commissioner and continued playing softball into his 80s doing his best to keep the game going – as he always did. Bill was featured in a [New York Times](#) article about – you guessed it – softball in 1997.