

The Tennessee Senior Olympics 2025 Hall of Fame Inductees

- The individuals being honored have taken full advantage of the opportunities the Senior Olympics has provided.
- Whether through competition or service to the organization, this group of honorees have participated in the games for decades.
- It's a privilege to honor these extraordinary individuals for their unique achievements and their commitment to staying healthy as they age.
- They are each an inspiration to all of us, as well as to their families, friends, and to their communities.

INDUCTEES

- **Jim Campbell**
 - Jim is 75 years old and lives in Hendersonville, TN.
 - He's been part of the TSO since 2009, competing in table tennis and track.
 - Jim has played table tennis most of his life and has earned many gold medals in both singles and doubles over the years.
 - He also serves as a great ambassador for the game and promoter of the TSO, always exhibiting good sportsmanship and leading by example.
 - His nominators said, "Jim has encouraged, supported and helped train at least **50** of the current table tennis players in the TSO."
- **Barbara Dillard**
 - Barbara has been honored with a posthumous induction.
 - Barbara resided in Lebanon, TN, and she was active in the TSO for over two decades.
 - She was an active participant in swimming, setting many district, state and national records.
 - Barbara was also a huge advocate for all participants – constantly inviting other senior swimmers to see what the TSO was all about.
 - Her nominators said, "Despite the toll breast cancer was taking on her body – Barbara insisted that she not stop training and actually went to nationals less than nine months before passing."

- **Hickman Ewing**

- Hickman is 83 years old and lives in Germantown, TN.
- For more than 25 years, Hickman has supported the TSO with his participation as an athlete including basketball, cornhole, shuffleboard, track and field.
- Hickman is also a top TSO ambassador through his active promotion of the state, district and national events – by photographing events, submitting them for publication, and working with local media to cover the events and athletes.
- He is constantly finding ways to highlight the value of TSO to the physical and mental health of seniors.
- His nominators say, “Hickman is always a gentleman in competition, as well as in all areas of his life. Whether he wins or loses, he always congratulates the other competitors. If he does not already know them, he encourages them and works to establish a friendship.”

- **Eleanor Pendergraft**

- Eleanor is 89 years old and lives in Johnson City, TN.
- She has been involved with the TSO since the 90’s – competing in track and field as well as road races.
- During her time with the TSO, Eleanor has obtained numerous medals and records at the district, state, and national levels.
- Eleanor is an ambassador for TSO by words and deeds – and continuously promotes and encourages others to join the organization.
- Her nominators say, “Eleanor has overcome physical hardship just to compete, and her will to participate and win is a wonderful message to others to be involved and give your best.”

- **Mary Vowell**

- Mary is 99 years old and lives in Martin, TN.
- She has been involved in the TSO since the 90’s competing in swimming on the regional, state and national levels.
- She’s earned many gold medals and presently holds 13 Tennessee state senior records.
- She is the only woman to ever have swum some events in her age group.
- Her nominators say, “Mary remained at ‘the top of her sport’ nationally for two decades with an amazing degree of modesty.”

- She's also a huge advocate and supporter of the TSO, known for encouraging athletes to join and compete.
- **Gary Hathcock-** surprise induction
 - Gary is 50 years old and lives in Spring Hill, TN.
 - He has served faithfully for twenty years behind the scenes as the TSO's Williamson County Parks and Recreation liaison.
 - Each year during the state finals he works like none other putting on events, painting and taping down on his knees, scheduling WCPR personnel, personally overseeing and physically moving the storage unit, willing to even unplug toilets and most importantly he is loving and caring for the seniors athletes.
 - He even spent multiple years as the TSO board chair and his passion is off the charts.
 - His nominators say, "One thing that sets him apart is ALL of the work he has done at so many levels. I can't think of anyone who has done more for the TSO, plus the athletes love him. People ask for him all the time especially at the track. He has made a lasting impression on the TSO organization and our athletes."