

Up To Bat – Senior Slugger Player Profile

Name: Thomas Paul Welbourn, aka – Tommy

Birthday: March 22nd

Originally From: Born near Dayton, Ohio. Tommy's dad was a veteran serving in the US Air Force. The Welbourn family moved around quite a bit in the early years. At various times they called Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Indiana, California, Virginia, and Maryland home. A few noteworthy things about the elder Mr. Welbourn – he was a food scientist in the Air Force and served for a time in the Pentagon. He was also on the U.S. Olympic kayak team that competed in the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany.

Tommy grew up the middle of 3 brothers. He attended high school at George C Marshall in Vienna, Virginia graduating with the class of '77. As good an athlete as we all know him to be, surprisingly he did not play on any of the school teams. He had more fun with the less organized and official games, playing a lot of baseball, basketball, soccer, tennis, etc. with the kids in the neighborhood.

Education and Work: After high school, Tommy earned a civil engineering degree from Virginia Tech. He began his career in civil engineering, surveying, and site work for commercial construction in 1982 and continued in that field for the next 39 years, fully retiring in 2021.

Family: On the job, Tommy somehow convinced a cute, young co-worker by the name of Valerie to go out with him. They married on July 10th and just celebrated their 26th anniversary. That year was also significant as it was the year Val and Tommy moved to Hendersonville in the house they still live in today. They've been blessed with 2 wonderful daughters.

Plus: Aside from being the guy in our league you don't want to hit a fly ball to (and the unofficial leader in triples this year so far on the mixed 60's team), Tommy is a strong hoops player, running the courts in Hendersonville and in Brevard. A few years back he played on a team in Transylvania County that placed #2 in the state.

Many of you know he's a San Francisco Giants fan. What you may not know is he became a fan because of the all-time great Willie Mays – also the reason Tommy sports #24 on his Slugger's jersey.

#24 has been playing with us for the last 16 years. Among the things he appreciates about our league is the exercise and that we have fun and don't take it all too seriously.