

Riswick's weekly schedule filled with sports, travel activities

By Kirk Kern

Ken Riswick didn't spend a lot of time playing sports growing up. Even in high school, he was too busy running a successful commercial fishing business. The business paid for his college tuition in the early 1970s and provided a business acumen that led to successfully running multiple companies.

"I didn't play very many sports in high school because I was always working on nets, boats and fishing," Riswick said. "I even had one of my history teachers in high school who was also the wrestling coach work for me."

But while it was all work, there was some time for some play. He accomplished his goal of retiring by age 58. Now, his life is all about play.

"Monday and Thursday are golf, Wednesday and Friday are tennis," he said. "Friday night is bowling and Tuesday or Saturday is clean up the house ... maybe some pickle ball." Riswick bowled a 633 series the last league game of the season.

Riswick also found time to play softball during retirement, along with an occasional game of bocce ball. He's competed in all of these events in the Mesquite Senior Games. And when he plays, he usually plays pretty well.

Tennis is probably Riswick's best sport, the one he's played the longest as well. He's played competitively as part of the USTA World Team Tennis

leagues. He even met league founder Billie Jean King, played a scrimmage, and purchased her tennis racket. At his best, he had a 4.5 USTA ranking, which is good enough to win local tournaments.

"We have a group of guys that play Wednesdays and Fridays," he said. "It's a pretty strong level of group play."

Riswick, 68, picked up golf only in 2005, but it's another sport he's thrived in. At one point, his handicap was 8.5. He had to take a hiatus in 2017 due to back surgery. He now feels his ability to play is about 90 percent.

Riswick moved to Mesquite in 2010, although he had owned a condo here since 2006. In 2011, he built a home in Sun City, but kept the condo as well. That turned out to be a good idea, as he also liked to travel the world and the condo had come in handy due to using it for home exchanges.

Riswick and his wife, Susan, who passed away in February of 2020, traveled throughout Europe, the Pacific Rim countries and around the United States. Riswick offered up his condo through the program for those wishing to visit Mesquite and in return was able to stay in homes all over the world.

"During two home exchanges, we were able to stay in Maui for an entire month," he said.

Riswick looks forward to spending time with close friends, playing sports and continue traveling the world.



Ken Riswick plays tennis twice a week, along with also playing golf, bowling and, occasional, pickle ball. (Amy Bradshaw photo)

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