



# 2023 International Skydiving Hall of Fame Celebration!

October 5–7 • Skydive Arizona, Eloy, Arizona



## SPECIAL 2023 CELEBRATION INSERT

*Join us for the 2023 Hall of Fame Celebration! (Schedule of events subject to change)*

### Thursday, October 5—Skydive Arizona

All Day Fun Jumping  
 4–Dusk Early Bird Registration and Packet Pick-Up  
*Print Media sponsored by USPA*  
*Lanyards sponsored by CYPRES*  
*T-Shirt Sleeves co-sponsored by DJ Associates, Inc. & SSK Industries, Inc.*  
 4–10 pm Early Bird Reception/Pioneers Lounge  
*Sponsored by Pope Valley Parachute Ranch (Curt Curtis/Tim Saltonstall)*

### *Friday (continued)*

5 pm Path of Excellence Reception (Cash Bar)  
 Indigenous Dance Troupe  
*sponsored by Vigil America*  
 Path of Excellence BBQ (Cash Bar)  
*sponsored by Sun Path Products Inc.*  
 Path of Excellence Award Presentation  
 Path of Excellence Pyrotechnic Tribute Jump  
*(Int'l Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame Demo Team)*

### Friday, October 6—Skydive Arizona

All Day Fun Jumping  
 10 am–3 pm Registration and Packet Pick-Up  
 10 am–4 pm Pioneers Lounge Open  
 11 am Affiliate Flag Jump  
 11 am 10-Way Registration Closes  
 11:30 am Affiliate Spotlight Awards  
 12–1:30 pm Pioneers of Excellence Award Presentation, Tribute Jump & Lunch—*Lunch sponsored by United Parachute Technologies (UPT)*  
 1:30 pm *A Tribute to Joe Kittinger* Forum with Alan Eustace and Art Thompson  
 2 pm Pairs Swooping and Classic Accuracy at the Pond  
 4 pm 10-Way Briefing

### Saturday, October 7—Skydive Arizona

All Day Fun Jumping  
 8 am–2:30 pm 10-Way Speed STAR WARS Competition  
 9 am–2 pm Registration and Packet Pick-Up  
 10 am–3 pm Pioneers Lounge Open  
 1 pm *Triple 7 Forum: The Tale of the Triple 7 Expedition* with Fred Williams, Mike Sarraille, and Nick Kush  
 2 pm Classic Accuracy—Final Jump  
 3 pm Awards—10-Way Speed STAR WARS, Pairs Swooping and Classic Accuracy

### Saturday—Marriott, 1600 S. Price Road, Chandler, AZ

6 pm Hall of Fame Cocktail Hour (cash bar) *sponsored by Skydivers Resurrection Award Group (SRA)*  
 7 pm Hall of Fame Banquet & Induction Ceremony  
*Presented by Parachute Industry Association*  
*Wine sponsored by Team Raeford & Law Offices of Robert L. Feldman/Robert & Jeanine Feldman*  
*Video Production sponsored by Phil Chiochio*



## **BREAKING NEWS! You won't want to miss this year's forums . . .**



*(from left) Art Thompson, Alan Eustace and Col. Joe Kittinger  
Photo by Andrey Veselov*

We are excited to announce two amazing forums at this year's Hall of Fame Celebration! On Friday, **A Tribute to Col. Joe . . .** Joe Kittinger, Hall of Fame 2010, passed away in December at the age of 94. Join us for our Friday Forum at the Hall of Fame Celebration when two of Col. Joe's best friends, Alan Eustace and Art Thompson, will take a light-hearted look at the life of the first man in space. On Saturday, join us for the **Triple 7 Forum: The Tale of the Triple 7 Expedition** with Fred Williams, Mike Sarraille, and Nick Kush. Triple 7 is a record-breaking, adrenaline-fueled adventure following a group of former Special Operations soldiers on a 7-day epic journey across 7 continents to raise 1,400 life-changing scholarships in support of the families of fallen and disabled service members and first responders.

The purpose of the International Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame® is to recognize and promote the sport of skydiving through public education and awareness; recognize the contribution to skydiving by its participants, suppliers and supporters; capture forever the history of the sport via its events, equipment, and personalities; and enhance aviation safety.

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## Introducing the Hall of Fame Class of 2023 . . .

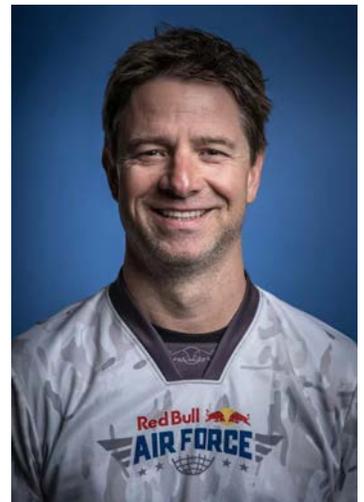
**Gustavo Cabana, Argentina**—Inspired by his mother, Gustavo Cabana took his first pictures at the age of 6 and began to study photography at age 16, but didn't find inspiration until he saw Norman Kent's poster of the first 100-way world record. After his 70th jump, the first with a camera on his helmet, he knew what he wanted to do for the rest of his life. With his passion and perseverance, he has become one of skydiving's most accomplished photographers, with over 27,000 camera jumps in 28 countries, having photographed 29 FAI world records in formation skydiving, canopy formation and head down and head up freefly. Gustavo is the creator of Videolounge, which has been used at world championships for dubbing, sorting and judging videos. He has also collaborated with many highly regarded large formation and canopy formation teams worldwide. Gustavo designed, built and managed an oxygen system that facilitated multiple skydiving records in Europe. He has been conducting camera courses and seminars since 1998 and created the online Flying Camera School with the goal of educating and helping to make camera flying safer for both newer and experienced jumpers. In 2020, he launched the website [www.gustavocabana.com](http://www.gustavocabana.com) to share his 30 years' worth of images with the world.



**Bill Coe, USA**—Bill is the founder, owner, and president of Performance Designs as well as a partner at Complete Parachute Solutions. In the summer of 1976, he entered the world of skydiving at a small drop zone in Hinckley, Illinois. There, he jumped through the winter and realized that he needed to move to a warmer place to jump year-round. On January 1, 1977, he packed up his car and moved to Daytona Beach. Bill started college at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and started skydiving in Deland, Florida. He also worked for Relative Workshop during this time. In October of 1979, Bill got a job with Eastern Airlines and moved to Miami. He continued jumping in Homestead, Florida, and would also rent airplanes to fly back to Deland to jump and continue taking college courses. In 1980, he designed and jumped his first parachute. Several more parachutes were designed, built, and tested over the next few years. Bill graduated in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Technology, Cum Laude. In 1983, Performance Designs was incorporated. Bill is responsible for many innovations in the sport such as the SLink, Microline, ZP fabric and crossbracing, just to name a few. With Bill's guidance and tenacity, Performance Designs has been at the helm of countless innovations for the sport and is committed to relentlessly pursuing research and development.



**Jon Devore, USA**—Jon is part educator, part performer, and one-hundred percent visionary. He first found skydiving back in 1993 when he did his first tandem skydive in his hometown of Juneau, Alaska. He knew right then that he found his true passion and by 1994, he had moved to Skydive Arizona to pursue his dream of human flight. During the early days of his career, he spent his time flying with a small group of passionate skydivers helping develop and push forward what is now known as freeflying. Jon was one of the first full-time freefly coaches and, together with his team Alchemy, organized almost every freefly world record attempt. He has been a professional skydiver and cameraman for 30 years, totaling more than 22,000 skydives and BASE/wingsuit jumps. Jon is a two-time world champion, a three-time national champion and he has been the aerial coordinator of the Red Bull Air Force Stunt Team for over 20 years. His passion is human flight and he likes to teach the general public about the sport he loves. Because demonstrating his sport is the best way to advocate it, Jon has dedicated a large part of his career to coordinating skydiving demos and live shows all over the world. Jon has also applied his expertise to a number of major Hollywood feature films as a stunt coordinator, skydiving stunt performer and aerial cinematographer, including *Batman*, *Ad Astra*, *Godzilla*, *Fast and Furious 7*, *Point Break*, *The Hangover Part III*, *Iron Man* and *Iron Man 3*, *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*, *San Andreas* and most recently as aerial stunt coordinator and camera flyer for *Mission Impossible 7*. He has also overseen stunts for a range of television programs and commercials.



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## Introducing the Hall of Fame Class of 2023 . . .

**Bill Kitchen, USA**—Bill is the inventor, with technical assistance from aerospace engineer Michael Palmer, of the modern vertical tunnel skydiving simulator. Bill's first skydive was a tandem jump in 1990 from a Beech 18 at the skydive center in Ft. Collins, Colorado. He soon completed Accelerated Freefall training, continued to advance his skills and went on to earn a PRO rating. To improve his flying skills, Bill went to a wind tunnel in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, where he observed that the air in that tunnel was not smooth, and he bruised himself falling off the "column of air" in the flight area. This inspired Bill to invent an effective vertical wind tunnel freefall simulator. Bill's vertical wind tunnel design revolutionized the concept by adding a fully enclosed cylinder, resulting in the most effective skydiving training tool other than actual freefall. The invention allows a new skydiver to get the equivalent time in simulated freefall in five minutes in the tunnel they would achieve in a day of skydiving. His success has both benefited and advanced skydiving significantly.



**Shannon Pilcher, USA**—Shannon is a multiple-time world champion skydiver, educator, and entrepreneur who has spent 27 years traveling the globe and living a life of purpose. As a two-time formation skydiving world champion, he has coached hundreds of jumpers in the science and art of 4-way. As a co-founding member of the PD Factory Team, he has amassed three world records and numerous world medals. Also, with the PDFT, he co-pioneered descents of some of the world's most iconic mountain peaks, including the Italian Dolomites, French Alps, Norwegian fjords, the Grand Canyon, and the Nepali Himalayas. As a co-founding member of Flight-1, he has taught thousands of civilian and military canopy pilots, helping to usher in a paradigm-shifting culture of canopy safety around the world. Shannon has dedicated the last five years of his journey to coaching multi-national leadership teams and their leaders to reach their highest potential. He holds a master's degree in organization development from American University and a bachelor's degree in building construction from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He lives in DeLand, Florida, with his wife and five-year-old daughter, and spends his summers in Israel with his wife's family.



## HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS

Availability is limited, so make your reservations early.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the Saturday Hall of Fame Reception and Banquet will take place at the **Marriott Phoenix/Chandler**.

### Marriott Phoenix/Chandler

*(Location of HOF Banquet Saturday Evening)*

1600 S. Price Road  
Chandler, AZ 85286  
480/732-1600

Room Rate: \$189 plus tax (room block expires 9/15/2023)

Book your group rate at <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1671737035765&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

### Holiday Inn Express & Suites

805 N. Cacheris Court  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
520/509-6333

Room Rate: About \$175.99 plus tax

Ask for the Skydive Arizona discount

### Radisson Hotel Casa Grande

777 N. Pinal Avenue  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
520/217-1029

Room Rate: \$134–\$140/night plus tax

(Rates vary slightly depending on the day)

Book at <https://www.radissonhotelsamericas.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-casa-grande/rooms> • Use code 2310INTE

### Best Western Plus Casa Grande Inn & Suites

1918 E. Florence Boulevard  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122  
520/836-5190

Book at [https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotels-in-casa-grande/best-western-plus-casa-grande-inn-suites/propertyCode.03173.html](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-casa-grande/best-western-plus-casa-grande-inn-suites/propertyCode.03173.html)

# 2023 International Skydiving Hall of Fame Celebration!

## Special Entertainment at Friday Night Path of Excellence BBQ



We are thrilled to have entertainment at the Friday night Path of Excellence BBQ from the Indigenous Enterprise dance troupe.

Sponsored by *Vigil America*, the troupe is made up of highly skilled and accomplished dancers who bring a deep sense of cultural pride and excellence to everything they do. The troupe provides world-class performances, striving to showcase the beauty and power of Indigenous culture, inspiring and uplifting audiences around the world with a dynamic and innovative approach. Their performances have captivated audiences at some of the most iconic venues and events including the Super Bowl, Sydney Opera House, and the 2020 Presidential Inauguration.

(Photo from the Indigenous Enterprise Facebook page)

## Come Out and See for Yourself!



The celebration weekend will include various jumps, including fan favorite 10-Way STAR WARS, a speed formation skydiving competition.

This year, the event will give a nod to history by having the traditional star (aka round) formation take place out of a DC-3. In addition, synchronized pairs of swoopers will demonstrate their skills across Skydive Arizona's pond and, between each round, classic accuracy jumpers will aim for a dot the size of a dime and land on a tuffet.

(Photo by Randy Forbes)

## Path of Excellence Award Goes to Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS)!

Skydivers Over Sixty, a subgroup of Parachutists Over Phorty Society, was formed in 1992 at the annual POPS Wintermeet held at Jimmy Godwin's drop zone in Umatilla, Florida. The first SOS 10-Way included many notables of the sport, such as Max Miensopust, Danny Hupert, Bill Wood, Lew Sanborn, Pat Moorehead, Tom Morrison, Bob Sinclair, J.D. Williams, Len Zak and Walter Ross,



some who are still active jumpers. The occasion was a celebration of the 60th birthday of SOS founder Pat Moorehead, and the decision was made that all dues and



sales from the SOS store would be donated to support the U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund.

In the ensuing 27 years, SOS has donated over \$32,000 to the fund. In addition, SOS has donated over \$5,000 to the International Skydiving Museum.

Interestingly, SOS includes people with thousands of jumps and some with just a few, and they do what they do because of the camaraderie and good times. SOS takes great pride in knowing that many skydivers who reach this special age continue to hone their skills and actively participate in POPS and SOS competitions around the world. The World POPS Meet has, for many years, included a SOS Division, and the U.S. World SOS teams have collected gold several times. The U.S. chapter has also inspired many other countries to form their own versions of SOS with the same results: camaraderie and good times.

SOS has inspired skydivers of "a certain age" to remain active in the sport—or to rejoin the fun after years of not jumping because of various issues. There are over 2,650 members of SOS from 30 countries, most still skydiving. And they truly believe that "60 is the new 40."

## Pioneers of Excellence Award Goes to the Golden Knights, the US Army Parachute Team—the Most Successful Parachute Competition Teams in History

Since 1959, the Golden Knights competition teams have fully dedicated themselves to establishing and continuing a rich and storied



legacy, interwoven with that of the national and international skydiving communities. The Knights have always been exemplary role models: sportsmanship, teamwork, fitness, dedication, hard work, perseverance—all the qualities it takes to make champions.



In 1959, Brigadier General Joseph Stilwell formed the Strategic Army Command Parachute Team, or STRAC, with the original mission to compete during the Cold War effort. This new U.S. all-Army team, comprised of 19 Airborne enlisted soldiers, swept the international accuracy competition circuit in what was then the Soviet-dominated sport of skydiving.

In 1961, the team would be formally activated and redesignated as the United States Army Parachute Team (USAPT). The team earned the nickname "The Golden Knights" for their dominance in competition. "Golden," signifying the gold medals the team had won; "Knights," proving they "conquered the skies" as world champions.

Over the coming decades, the accuracy competition teams evolved, creating the style and accuracy and 4-way/8-way skydiving teams and later adding canopy relative work (CRW), canopy piloting (CP) and vertical formation skydiving (VFS) teams. There is no other team in the history of skydiving that extends so far into almost every aspect of the sport.

The Golden Knights competition teams sport an impressive record of more than 460 national champion, 100 world champion, 54 national and 45 world team titles. The teams have earned 2,492 gold medals, 1,307 silver medals and 750 bronze medals. Over the past 63 years, the U.S. Army Parachute Team has broken 348 world records, including military records held in the Conseil International du Sports Militaire (CISM). Their outstanding contribution to the sport has been sustained continuously since 1959.