



“We’re Not Dead Yet!”

A woman tennis player made that comment in March at the USTA National championship tournament for players 65+ in Surprise, AZ.

Judging from the high level and spirited competition over the three day event—the players were “far from dead, indeed.”

Approximately 200 men and women athletes representing 15 regions and states including Hawaii came to the Valley of the Sun to compete in the first ever National tournament for 65+ USTA players.

“About time USTA acknowledged that the 65+ demographic is the fastest growing in America,” said Larry Hayes, captain of the Sunnyvale 3.5 team representing Northern California. “We’re not as fast or strong as we once were but more crafty and smarter.”

“The most inspiring thing about the 65+ crowd is not how well we play— which is really high level—but how many still play after knee and hip replacements, strokes, heart attacks and other health issues,” said Hayes. “We’re blessed to still be playing and serving as role models for younger players.”

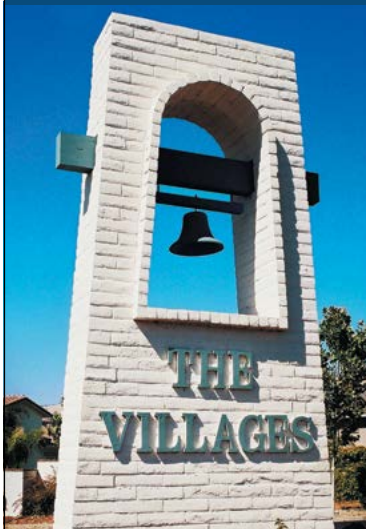
“Tennis keeps us alive and healthy. It’s a fun, competitive way to stay active as long as possible.”



Left to right: Bob Ziegler, Larry White, Tom Trankle, Po Chen, Shyamal Kanoo, Bill Moniz, Jim Connor, captain Larry Hayes, (kneeling). Not pictured: Merrill Clum and co-captain Robert Brown.

Editor’s Note: *The Sunnyvale 65+ team didn’t win the Nationals but all came home winners.*

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