

# Congratulations!



**Soon to be 100 Years Old  
ELLA DUNCAN  
and her partner Gerald Sullivan**

**made the top four in District #17  
Fun in the Sun STaC games!!**

**Various**

**June 6-12, 2022, Sunday Afternoon Open - 31.5 Tables**

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
7.88	1			Paul Spear - Brenda Spear; Sun City Grand Duplicate	70.83%
5.91	2	1		David Zwonitzer - Clara Bunning; Wyoming Wild West	67.13%
3.88	3/4	2/3	1	Justin Browning - Daniel Zwonitzer; Wyoming Wild West	62.50%
3.88	3/4	2/3		<b>Ella Duncan - Gerald Sullivan; Sun City BC</b>	62.50%
2.49	5	4		Ellen Vineski - Kelly Wawrzynek; Longmont Duplicate Bridge	60.94%
1.87	6	5		Vickie Thomas - Jean Norgaard; Wyoming Wild West	60.65%
1.40	7	6		Duane Wall - Gordy Vondrak; Wyoming Wild West	60.19%
1.64	8			Clayton Parker - Edie Parker; Sun City Grand Duplicate	58.97%
1.40			2	Patricia Dumbacher - C Michael Deaton; Sun City Grand Duplicate	54.46%
1.05			3	Renee O'Donnell - Patricia Adams; Sun City BC	54.17%
0.79			4	Jim Pronger - Eila Pronger; Sun City Grand Duplicate	51.60%
0.59			5	Judith Shinn - Edward Doran; Longmont Duplicate Bridge	48.93%



# Player, Writer, Jester, Mensch

Eddie Kantar was one of the all-time greats

By Paul Linxwiler

**A**CBL Hall of Famer Eddie Kantar died April 8 in Santa Monica CA, his longtime home. He was 89.

Kantar was a two-time world champion. He was a member of the winning North American squad in the Bermuda Bowl in 1977 in Manila, Philippines, and in 1979 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He also earned a silver medal in the Bermuda Bowl in 1975 and a bronze in 1969.

An ACBL Grand Life Master, Kantar won 17 NABC titles. All were team games except for the 1983 von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs which he won with fellow Hall of Famer Bob Hamman.

In 2015, Kantar was named the ACBL Honorary Member of the Year.

Despite this stunning resume, Kantar is best known as a teacher and author. The

Bridge World published Kantar's first piece in 1954, while the Bridge Bulletin began showcasing his work a few years later. His columns "Kantar For the Defense" in The Bridge World, and the Bridge Bulletin's "Test Your Play" and "Chalk Talk" have run for decades.

An author of some three dozen books, Kantar was a prolific writer who geared most his writing to newer or intermediate players. His style was a model of economy and clarity, laced with generous amounts of his trademark humor. Six of his books were named Book

of the Year by the American Bridge Teachers' Association.

Kantar also played the role of bidding theorist. His various works on the Roman key card Blackwood convention are authoritative explorations of the treatment, especially in continuations that follow answers



Powerhouse squad, early '60s: (standing) Kantar, Bob Hamman; (seated) Lew Mathe, Howard Schenken, Marshall Miles



Billy Eisenberg and Kantar were frequent partners in the mid-'70s.

to asking-bids for the number of key cards or the queen-ask. Kantar's discussions of which variations of RKCB are most effective in different contexts were groundbreaking.

Thousands of players attended classes taught by Kantar across North America, though Southern California was his typical venue. Kantar was such a fan of the area that he declined to accept Ira Corn's invitation to join the famed Aces squad when the team was being assembled in the late 1960s because it would have required Kantar to move to Dallas.

Born in Minneapolis MN in 1932, Kantar learned bridge as an 11-year-old, and then began teaching the game as an older teenager. Bridge was a full-time preoccupation for Kantar, as was his other hobby, table tennis. Kantar

was the Minnesota state champion for table tennis, and he even got to play in the world championships for the sport, causing him to quip that he was the only person on the planet ever to have played in world championships for bridge *and* table tennis.

Tributes to Kantar were numerous, especially from members of the expert community.

Barry Rigal said, "Eddie was one of a kind. People always talk about bridge players and say, 'No one had a bad word to say about them.' In Eddie's case, I am sure that is true."

Allan Graves wrote, "What an incomparable loss to all his worlds: tremendous player, prolific and incomparable writer, and a good friend. This is really sad."

Pamela Granovetter said, "We've lost one of the *most* special people on the planet. Eddie was simply the best."

Kantar is survived by his wife of many years, Yvonne; stepsons Bryan (Megan) and Jeffrey; and granddaughters Elena, Evelyn and Rene.

Kantar is also survived by his first wife, Phyllis Kantar.



Paul Soloway and Kantar enjoyed a strong partnership in the early '70s.

## World titles

### Gold medal

Bermuda Bowl 1977, 1979

### Silver medal

Bermuda Bowl 1975

### Bronze medal

Bermuda Bowl 1969

## NABC titles

Marcus Cup 1960, 1966

### Spingold KO Teams

1961, 1962, 1973, 1978

### Reisinger BAM Teams

1962, 1965, 1976, 1980

### Vanderbilt KO Teams

1964, 1978, 1988

### GNT Championship Flight

1974, 1976

von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs 1983

Jacoby Open Swiss 1987

## Kantar's Humor

*No synopsis of the life of Eddie Kantar would be complete without a sample of some of his hilarious sayings and stories.*

If you have the slightest touch of masochism, you'll love this game.

I'm teaching a class, and I fill in at a table when one student has to leave. The lesson is on signaling, and I emphasize signaling encouragement with the higher or highest of equals. The lady I am playing with has the A-10-9-8-6 and correctly signals me with the 10. I compliment her. She says: "I just read in my Goren book that when you are playing with a weak player that you should make your signals as clear as possible."

Bridge is a great comfort in old age. It also helps you get there faster.

A married couple are not speaking to each other after a horrible game and are driving home from a distant bridge tournament. They pass by a field where there are many donkeys. The husband breaks the silence by asking the wife: "Relations of yours?" "Yes," she says. "In-laws."

Bridge is essentially a social game, but unfortunately it attracts a large number of antisocial people.

Years ago there were only two acceptable reasons for not leading partner's suit: (1) having no cards in the suit; (2) a death wish.

We had a partnership misunderstanding: I assumed my partner knew what he was doing.

This one fellow loves to psych, but his partner has had his fill and tells him that from now, he is going to fine him \$20 every time he psychs. The "psycher" agrees and everything is going along just fine until the psycher winds up playing against a guy he hates. The psycher is the dealer. He says to his partner: "By the way, here's the \$20 I owe you: One spade!"

If I did everything right, I wouldn't be playing with you.

A club is led against a 7♦ contract, and declarer has four clubs to the jack. His partner, the dummy, says, "I have some good and some bad news for you. The good news is that I am void in clubs; the bad news is that I am also void in diamonds." ♣



Kantar visited ACBL Headquarters as part of a teaching cruise on the Mississippi River in 2017.

*Congratulations  
Walt & Kay White*

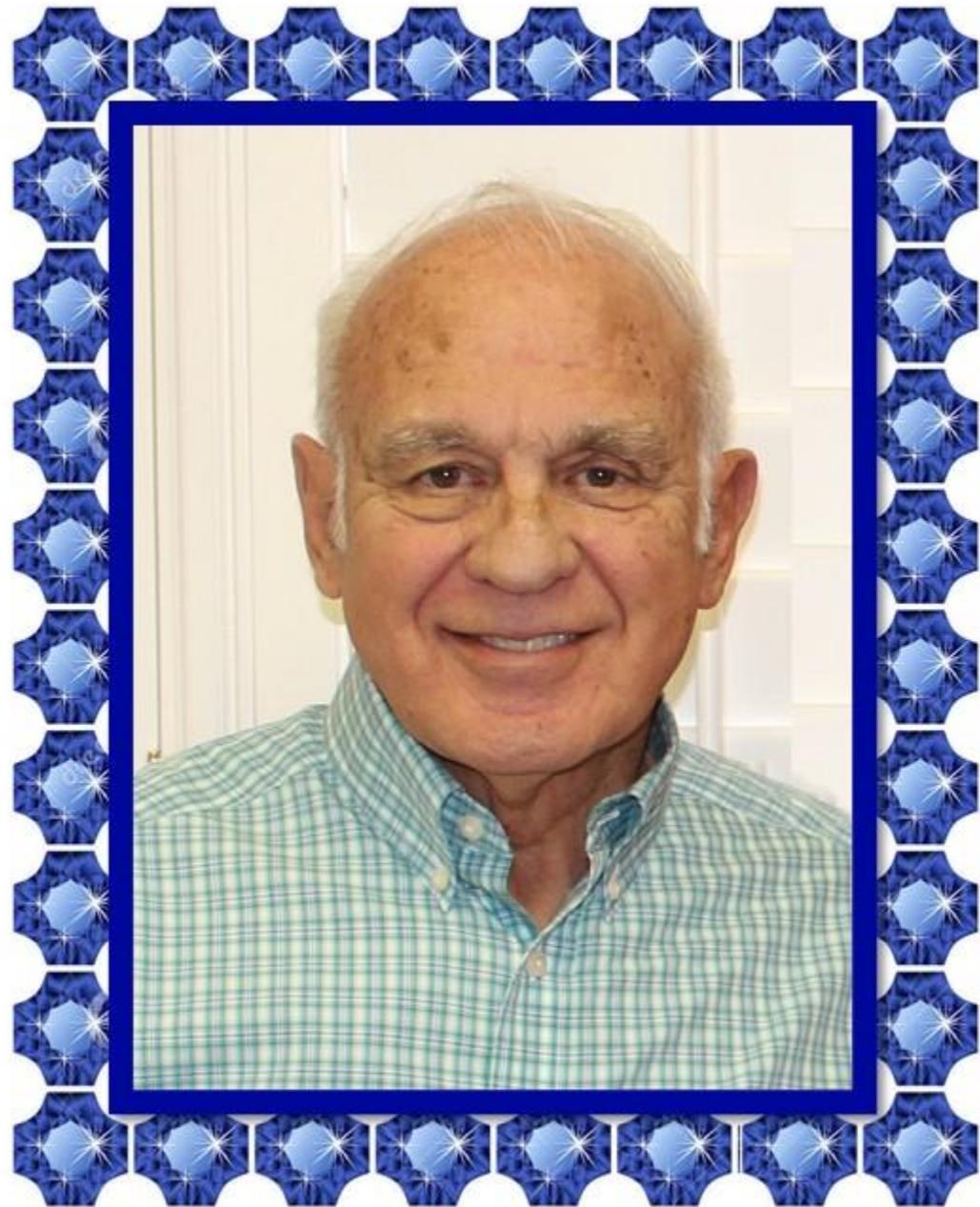
*On your*

*60<sup>th</sup>*

*Anniversary*  
CELEBRATING



*March 4, 1962 – March 4, 2022*



# Congratulations

To our newest  
Ruby and Silver Life Masters

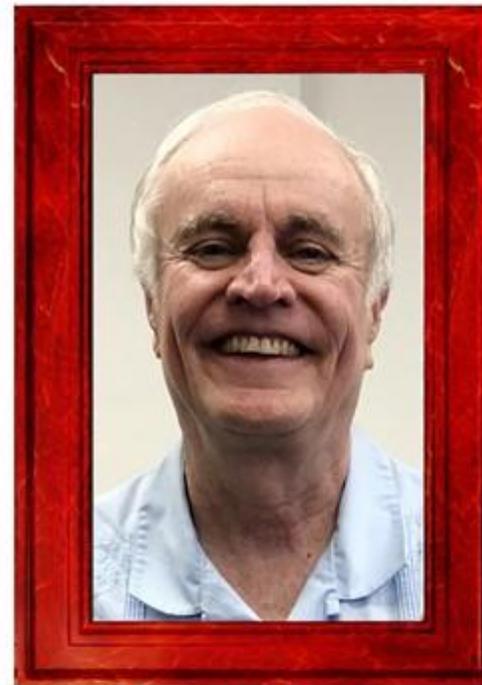
Barbara Crews

Ellen Eastman

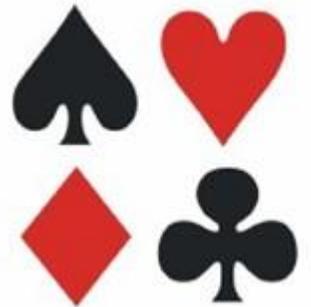
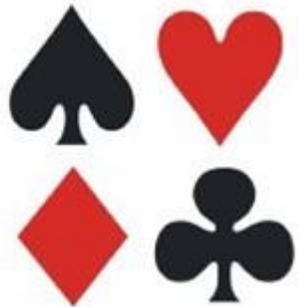
Gerald Sullivan



Bernice Williams



Gary Byers





- Click [here](#) to view an interesting video of movie star and bridge player **Omar Sharif**. “And to think I’ve played Bridge with him in Penang & at the St James club in London! A real gentleman!” Jane, Bob Esch’s friend from England

See next page

## THE CLUB, DIAMOND, SPADE AND HEART OF DIXIE!

By Lorraine O'Donnell



**Congratulations to  
Dixie Wicker  
for attaining  
the rank of  
Life Master**

We are gathered together  
In this special moment  
To pay tribute to Dixie  
(And say "to hell" with Covid!)

Few can say they've done it,  
Any quicker or slicker,  
In earning their Life Masters  
Than our own, Dixie Wicker.

Deep in the heart of Dixie,  
You'll find diamonds, clubs, and spades  
Because that girl just loves this game,  
And today is her big day!

Playing bridge is a challenge,  
A very demanding task,  
But our girl met this challenge,  
Even while wearing a mask.

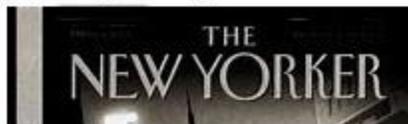
- They say the sea has treasures deep –
  - tons of silver and gold.
- Well, that's what Dixie came home with, thanks to our Swiss team, daring and bold!
  - As a bridge cruising buddy with Barbara, Mary, and me
    - She chalked up all her gold points while we were all out to sea!
  - I talked the team into a bridge cruise! Who didn't have this as their wish??
    - But Barbara Crews finally asked of me, isn't it a floating petri dish?
  - So, the luckiest thing for all of us, more than Dixie's points a'plenty,
    - Was that we arrived home safe and sound; 'cause the ship docked March of '20!
      - A visitor to bridge camps and a true student of the game,
  - She'd travel and play and study, committed to improving her game!
    - She always has a smile on her face, is pleasant, happy, and calm.
      - And is cheerful at the table (unless she's playing with Tom!)
    - Then a darker side emerges, or this, at least, I'm told.
  - But it explains why Tom didn't cruise with us, in search of silver and gold.
    - It's not that she picked board over man, she loves Tom to the core,
      - But really, on a bridge cruise, do you want it to be man "over board?"
        - Of course, I'm only joking! Tom isn't afraid of his wife!
    - So, what if he comes down here early, just so he can hide all the knives??
      - And our newest Life Master of bridge is a Master Gardener too,
      - Loved by kids and grandkids! Dixie, Hearty congratulations to you!

# THE GREAT BRIDGE BOYCOTT

*At a recent tournament, thirty teams refused to compete when faced with the prospect of playing against Fulvio Fantoni, a notorious Italian player who has been accused of cheating.*



By David Owen  
October 13, 2021



*Bridge partners can legally signal each other through their bidding and card selection, as long as their methods are fully disclosed.* Photograph by Geoff Pugh / Shutterstock

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Many thanks to Reggie Feuille who gifted the Bridge Center with this teapot and chest of a variety of teas

