

## Richard “Big Daddy” Sanders



Villa Rico, Georgia  
Meritorious Category  
Inducted November, 2008

Richard Sanders is a native of Georgia and joined the NSA family in 1985 and immediately became a key ingredient in NSA’s success in the South. In Richard’s 20 plus years with the NSA, few have been more important to its growth in the southern part of the United States. His contributions are very well documented through NSA history as Richard has worn many hats in his relationship with the National Softball Association. Richard has served as the Georgia State Director, Park Manager, Softball Advisor and Sports Marketing director. All of which Richard used his many connections to aid NSA in it’s growth to prominence in the softball world. Richard signed on Softball Country Club in Atlanta, Georgia with the NSA, making Softball Country Club the 2<sup>nd</sup> privately owned park to join the fledgling National Softball Association. While at the Softball Country Club, Richard hosted two record breaking tournaments in 1986 and 1987. In 1986, 127 teams invaded Softball Country Club and in 1987, 164 teams made their way into Atlanta. These tournaments are still NSA records for a single division World Series. When the first directors of the NSA Hall of Fame came up with the idea of having a Hall of Fame for the NSA, Richard Sanders was one of the first invited to be a member of the new National Softball Association Sports Hall of Fame board of directors.

Since stepping down as the Georgia State Director, Richard has been an advisor to the NSA National Office and all of it’s Zone VP’s. Richard has been instrumental in the hiring of personnel throughout the south and introducing NSA to new cities and parks. But, Richard’s work doesn’t stop with simply the NSA. Richard “Big Daddy” Sanders has been a valuable asset to the sport of softball in general.

For his work with NSA, and the sport of softball, in November of 2008 Richard “Big Daddy” Sanders was inducted into the National Softball Association Sports Hall of Fame in the Meritorious Category.