PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: Gino Yannotti, CFO, Heroes Athletic Association | supt_heroes@@hotmail.com | www.heroesathleticassociation.org

October 5, 2026

Heroes Athletic Association Founder Jimmy Sneed Selected for the Fairfax Adult Softball Hall of Fame

Six-time county champion to be enshrined March 13, 2027, at the Burke, Va., firehouse

FAIRFAX COUNTY, Va. — Jimmy Sneed, one of the founders of Heroes Athletic Association (HAA), the 501(c)(3) nonprofit that connects Service Members, Veterans, law enforcement professionals, firefighters and their families to local communities through adult recreational sports, has been selected for induction into the Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS) Hall of Fame in the Player category. He will be enshrined at the Hall of Fame ceremony on March 13, 2027, at the Burke, Va., firehouse (Time is TBD).

For more than 15 years, Sneed anchored the left side of the infield in COED, Open, Masters and tournament play. He founded the Virginia Vipers Softball Club for Veterans — the team that grew into Heroes Athletic Association — and played more games than anyone in the club's history. Teammates say he missed just one FAS game in his career: the night Stephen Strasburg made his major-league debut for the Washington Nationals.

"Jimmy was a pure softball player. He was the steady shortstop and third baseman on nearly every team he played on," said Christopher Benoit, an Army veteran and HAA board member. "No player on the Vipers or with Heroes Athletic Association had a greater impact on our teams than Jimmy Sneed."

Sneed's production at the plate was elite. He hit above .600 for his Vipers career and led the club in RBIs, and in Spring 2012 he led the Growlers with 37 RBIs and a .682 average. He was the starting shortstop on the Vipers' first FAS Division 1 COED county championship team and remained a fixture for every county title that followed, finishing his FAS career with six county championships, 13 division championships and 17 division runner-up finishes.

"Jimmy Sneed's combination of skill, durability, championship success, and exemplary conduct make him a clear and worthy candidate for the Fairfax Adult Softball Hall of Fame," wrote William Sikes, a member of the FAS Hall of Fame, in his letter supporting the nomination.

Off the field, Sneed served on the FAS Board of Directors and volunteered countless hours for the league. His league administrative experience enabled The Vipers, later renamed the Heroes, to be enshrined in the FAS Hall of Fame in the team category.

"Jimmy was a true ambassador for Fairfax Adult Softball," said Dennis Kisielewski, a U.S. Marine veteran, FAS board member and longtime Growlers teammate. "His impact on the Northern Virginia softball community was truly profound."

Sneed now lives in Texas, where he still plays third base and manages an HAA team on the national senior softball tournament circuit.

"Jimmy helped build this organization from a single team of Veterans into a community of Heroes that now spans three states," said Carl S. Ey, Executive Director of Heroes Athletic Association. "All of us at HAA are proud to see him take his place among the best players in Fairfax Adult Softball history."

Since fielding its first team in 1997 and incorporating as a 501(c)(3) in 2011, HAA has grown to more than 4,000 members across chapters in Fairfax County, Va., St. Johns County, Fla., and Williamson County, Texas. All HAA players wear #22 on their jerseys — the number tied to daily Hero suicides — to raise suicide prevention awareness.

Heroes Athletic Association exists because of their fabulous sponsors: Veterans United, WB Engineering & Consultants, Lindsay Cadillac, Mission 22, Mammoth Global Partners, Baird Automotive, Wreaths Across America, Anheuser Busch, Shirts and Logos, American Endowment Foundation and American Roll Off Roll On Carrier.

-30-

ABOUT HEROES' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: ***HAA funds adult recreational athletic teams for the Hero and his or her family to participate in their local adult recreational sports leagues. Providing a venue to engage in the Hero's community off of the base, away from the precinct or firehouse, facilitates the successful transition for that Hero in a comfortable recreational activity. HAA has had zero suicides among its 4,000-plus members since beginning its mission.***