



1969 - 2019

Charlie Kuester

2008 Athlete of the Year



Special Olympics
Indiana



SPIRIT OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2008

Vanderburgh County athlete Charlie Kuester was involved with Special Olympics Indiana since its inception in 1969, earning our top annual athlete award in 2009 at the age of 63. A vocal supporter and active fundraiser for his local program, Charlie competed in a wide variety of sports over the years including bocce, bowling, corn toss, and softball, gradually competing less but adapting his role — demonstrating with great enthusiasm that there is a place for everyone in Special Olympics.



"You are the stars and the world is watching you. By your presence, you send a message to every city, every village, every nation. A message of hope, a message of victory."

Eunice Kennedy Shriver

1987 International Games, South Bend, Indiana