

# Al Unser

Al began racing in 1957 at the age of 18 in a modified Roadster and retired as a driver in 1994, a career that spanned 37 years. He is one of only five drivers to ever win two consecutive Indy 500's (1970 & 1971) and he is one of only three drivers (A.J. Foyt & Rick Mears) to win the Indy 500 four times (1970, 1971, 1978 & 1987). His name represents excellence in the racing industry and, both on and off the track, Al demonstrates a commitment to be the very best.

In 2003 Al, and his wife Susan, founded the Unser Discovery Center. The five acre campus includes the Unser Racing Museum, the Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School, a public charter school and the Challenger Learning Center of New Mexico. In honor of his mother, the Mary Unser an annual scholarship was created which to date has awarded over \$40,000 to 7 students who are enrolled in colleges pursuing degrees in engineering. He has lived in Albuquerque his entire life and to relax he spends time on his ranch in Chama, NM where he enjoys snowmobiling.

## Career Highlights

- 1964 Won Pikes Peak Hill Climb.
- 1965 Won Pikes Peak Hill Climb for second time. Rookie year at Indy 500 – finished 9th.
- 1967 Finished 2nd at Indy 500 to A.J. Foyt. Named USAC Rookie of the Year.
- 1970 Won 1st Indy 500 – started on pole, led all but 10 laps. USAC National Champion.
- 1971 Won 2nd Indy 500 – Fourth driver to win 2 consecutive Indy 500's.
- 1973 USAC Champion in Dirt Car Division.
- 1977 Champion of International Race of Champions (IROC) series.
- 1978 Won 3rd Indy 500. Only driver to ever win USAC's "Triple Crown". Won second IROC Championship.
- 1983 Won CART/PPG Championship.
- 1985 Won Daytona 24 Hour. Won second Cart/PPG Championship (by one point over his son).
- 1987 Won Indy 500 for 4th time.
- 1988 Finished 3rd at Indy and became all time lap leader in Indianapolis Motor Speedway history.
- 1991 Inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame.
- 1992 Finished 3rd at Indy behind his son Al, Jr. who won his first Indy 500.
- 1994 Al retired and Al Jr. won his second Indy 500.
- 1997 Began working with Indy Racing League as senior official, technical advisor and driver coach.
- 1998 Inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame.
- 2004 Presented with U.S. Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award. Grandson, Al, III started in the IRL Pro Series.
- 2005 Completed his vision of creating the Unser Racing Museum so that his entire family can display the history of a family dedicated to the sport of auto racing. Between Al, Bobby and Al, Jr. there are 9 Indianapolis 500 wins, (over 10 percent of all Indianapolis 500's have been won by an Unser).