## RONALD TELLEFSEN April 7, 1936—March 5, 2005

Babe Ruth League lost one of its greatest leaders with the passing of Ron Tellefsen, who served as President/CEO of the program for over 25 years. In fact, the loss was felt throughout the game of baseball from the youth level to the major leagues.

Ron began his affiliation with the Babe Ruth program in 1956 as a manager for the Clarkstown, New York Babe Ruth League. He began his professional career in 1969 as Development Director, administering the Babe Ruth League's national 16-18 program. Promoted to Field Commissioner in 1971, Ron assumed the responsibility for the entire field operation. In 1973, he was named Commissioner, and in 1979 was promoted to Vice President/ Commissioner. In September of 1980, the International Board of Directors elected Ron Tellefsen to the position of President/CEO, the position he held until his untimely passing.

Ron was respected for his knowledge of baseball, and as a result, was a long-time member of the Advisory Board of the Major League Baseball Rules Committee. He was a member of the American Baseball Coaches Association and Character Counts Coalition for Youth Sports. Special honors included being named a Kentucky Colonel, presented the Arkansas Traveler Award, and appointed as a Sagamore of the Wabash (Indiana). Ron was inducted into the Rockland County (NY) Sports Hall of Fame in 1994, the A.A. Comeaux Youth Hall of Fame (LA) in 2004, the Babe Ruth League International Hall of Fame in 2007, and awarded the ABCA Meritorious Service Award in 2008.

Ron's personal integrity and commitment to our nation's youth was unsurpassed. His paramount objective was that every child be afforded the opportunity to play baseball/softball and have fun doing so.

