

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

Jerry Miccolis

THE BOYS of Late Summer

One man's irreverent
account of competition and comradery
among an oddly inspiring squad of
senior softballers



THE BOYS OF LATE SUMMER

by Jerry Miccolis

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"Jerry Miccolis, a can't-field/can't-hit third baseman, has managed to put together a funny, charming, gently deep page-turner about the most unlikely of subjects: Old Man Softball. It will surprise and delight as it gently illuminates the strangely inspiring world of titanium bats, knees and hips—and the hopes and dreams of the now ancient boys of summer, who prove conclusively that no matter how old you are, you can still experience a wild ride of joy, agony, ecstasy, incontinence and brain farts. As long as you've got the balls to do so."

—David Henry Sterry, best-selling author of Chicken

One man's irreverently heartfelt account of competition, comradery, and awakening on the road with an oddly inspiring squad of aging athletes.

Twelve men, well past their prime, are on a sacred quest for one more shot at a slim slice of glory: Winning a prestigious softball tournament against a bunch of equally time-ravaged old codgers from all across the country. Join this spirited squad of sexagenarians, the Jersey Boys, as they trek to the famed Cape Cod Classic, play like pros (well, play their hearts out, anyway), bond like brothers, and teach each other a thing or two about life along the way.

Meet crafty Jimmy, the Machiavellian mastermind of sundry clandestine enterprises; bombastic Howie, the irrepressible clown prince and erstwhile mime; silent Steve, the research chemist recruited by the Mob; and gentle John, the patient, paternal pastor who could snap you in half if he had to. Root for them and the rest of this dauntless dozen as they battle creaky joints, reconstructed limbs, weak bladders, self-doubts, insult, injury, gravity, and Father Time.

In defying the odds, the clock, and their own limitless limitations, they illuminate a profound truth:
In softball, and in life, it's never too late.

"Author Jerry Miccolis takes a game, solid cut at the same noble, gut-knuckling, knee-buckling themes that Malamud or Roth face every time they step into the box: to tell a comic, poignant tale that rings truly; to position any topic, no matter how arcane, worthy of a reader's interest; and to honestly, even bravely, explore the paradox that accompanies every extra inning against an unbeatable foe (in which the next "at-bat" could be our last). With a Rothian—and a Ruthian—resonance, Miccolis touches 'em all."

—Lee Robert Schreiber, scribe of ten books, including The One That Got Away and Poker as Life

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Jerry Miccolis was born in Philadelphia, PA, has a BS in math from Drexel University, and is a retired financial executive. He and his wife split their time between the Garden Isle of Kauai and the Garden State of New Jersey. The Boys of Late Summer is Miccolis's third book and first memoir.

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