



NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES

Local Competitor Profile

Richard Mote – D-Day Veteran Going All the Way for the Gold!

At 83 years young, Richard Mote is ready and willing to go “all the way” to capture a gold medal in his first National Veterans Golden Age Games in Indianapolis.

Mote entered military service as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division on June 16, 1943. He experienced the D-Day invasion first hand, and he, along with his fellow troops, surged forward from then on, refusing to stop until they reached Berlin. This very proud World War II veteran’s sense of duty did not end on December 30th, 1945, when he was honorably discharged. He continued his service to this nation as an artilleryman in the Army Reserves, where he trained young soldiers who were headed off to Korea.

Mote found a love for instruction from this experience and became a history teacher for the Indianapolis Public School System in 1951, where he remained until his retirement in 1987.

He loves sharing his experiences with others, and often volunteers to speak in schools about his military experiences. He remains active in several veterans organizations.

As if the Golden Age Games were not enough excitement for one year, he also plans to attend the 82nd Airborne Days in August, a 505th Infantry Regiment reunion in September, and a reunion of the Korean War 424th Field Artillery Battery in October.

Mote will compete in several of the swimming competitions at this year’s Games, including the 25 and 50-yard freestyle swimming and the 25-yard backstroke. Although this is his first experience with the National Veterans Golden Age Games, he has competed in many other events, including the Hoosier State Senior Games.

The spirit of competition and camaraderie is a part of his personality and Mote says, “I’m really looking forward to this challenge and hope to bring home a medal!”

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