

# CHRA

## Charlotte Harbor Reef Association

### The Don Ball School of Fishing

Dedicated to protecting the fishing legacy passed on by our ancestors our goal is to educate young anglers and to place new fish habitat in Charlotte Harbor, the Gulf of Mexico and surrounding waterways.

This educational program, produced by the Charlotte Harbor Reef Association with help from Water LIFE magazine, The Fish Florida Foundation, the Charlotte Marine Advisory Committee and the University of Florida Sea Grant program, insures our youth will have the knowledge to enjoy and protect our fragile environment.

### Who was Don Ball?

**Donald C. Ball, Jr.**  
1952-1998

Born in Kentucky, Don grew up in Eustis, Florida. The eldest of three children, Don established himself as a leader at an early age. When Don attended high school, he was the class president every year. Don excelled in academics and participated in athletics. After graduating from Florida State University, Don served in the United States Marine Corp. After separating from the military, Don moved to Jackson Hole, Wyoming and started a family and a career in real estate. With the desire to be closer to family and the beautiful waters of Charlotte Harbor, Don, his wife, daughter and son

relocated to Charlotte County, Florida in 1986.

Don was very active in many organizations; Coastal Conservation Association (previously the Florida Conservation Association), The United Way, Kiwanis and the Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda Little League. In addition to his involvement with civic associations and youth programs, Don also had a passion for outdoor recreation. He enjoyed fishing, boating, and diving with his family.

On May 14th, 1998, Don lost his only battle to a brain tumor. With honor and deep respect for a great man, it is our pleasure to present the Don Ball School of Fishing.

The Don Ball School of Fishing is funded entirely by the Water LIFE Magazine Kids Cup Tournament. The sponsors are shown below as they appeared on the 2009 Kids Cup Leaderboard. We thank them ALL!



*Our sincere thanks go out to the following Captains for helping, in one way or another, with the 2009 Don Ball School*

**Capt. Danny Latham, Capt. Rod Walinchus, Capt. Mike Mannis, Capt. Bob DeKeulenaere, Capt. Bart Marx, Capt. Andrew Medina, Capt. Betty Staugler, Capt. Ralph Allen, Capt. Chuck Eichner, Capt. Alan Ogle, Capt. Angel Torres, Capt. Fishin' Frank**