

**Charles W. Bird**  
Knight of Whiskey Creek  
Churchville, Virginia  
Inducted 1992

Charles Bird began his jousting career at the age of 10 in 1958 under the guidance of his uncles, the Back brothers. He received his first win in the Amateur class at Big Bend in Millsboro in 1961. He went on to win 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Goshen in 1976. Charlie won the Virginia State Championship Semi-Pro Class two years in a row in 1987 and 1988. He captured 4<sup>th</sup> place at the National Jousting Tournament for the Semi-Pro class in 1986. He won numerous first places in the Semi-Pro classes during 1987 and 1988.

Charlie has done more to promote the sport of jousting in his home area than any other contestant. He founded the Natural Chimney Jousting Club in the early 1980's and served as its President for two years. He also served a term as President of the Virginia State Jousting Association. Charlie has helped the National Jousting Association and the Virginia State Jousting Association in putting on their tournaments. He has participated and placed in West Virginia tournaments as well. Charlie organized the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Tournament sponsored by the Natural Chimneys Jousting Club for a few years with the proceeds going to the Blue Ridge Riders Wheelchair Club.

Since that time Charlie has provided horses, transportation, entry fees, food and shelter for anyone interested in trying their skills at jousting. He encouraged young riders by allowing them the use of his horses and easy access to his jousting track located on his farm. Charlie has trained numerous horses for his sons, daughter, nephews and most of their friends to ride in every tournament possible. He has helped maintain the Natural Chimneys jousting track and its grounds. There is no way to account for all his time and energy put forth in this very enjoyable sport.

Some of Charlie's greatest pleasures were watching his uncles inducted into the Hall of Fame and reminiscing with them about tournaments in the years past. If anyone could say that they loved the sport of Jousting, it is certainly Charles W. Bird. It is with the greatest of honor that we give him his rightful place along side his family in the National Hall of Fame.