

2000 Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame Class of Inductees

Bobby Unser

A member of America's first family of auto racing, Bobby Unser's 13 career victories in the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb stand as the most of any driver in the storied history of the race. After winning his first championship in the open-wheel division of the "Race to the Clouds" in 1956, Unser claimed six consecutive titles from 1958-63. In 1968, he became the first driver to complete the challenging mountain course in under 12 minutes.

Building upon his success in the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, Unser moved to the Indy Car circuit in 1963, where he claimed the championship of the world's most famous race, the Indianapolis 500, three times: 1968, 1975 and 1981. In almost 20 years of Indy Car racing, Unser registered 35 wins and, upon his retirement in 1981, ranked among the top five on the all-time Indy Car victory list.

Unser came out of retirement in 1986 to win his 13th Pikes Peak International Hill Climb in a record-setting time of 11 minutes, 9.22 seconds. He has since remained active in the sport of auto racing as a television commentator and as an advisor for up-and-coming Indy Car drivers such as his son, Robby.

In 1990, Unser was inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame.