

George Best

At age 97, George Best has contributed more than 6,100 lifetime hours of volunteer time. A volunteer in some capacity for most of his life, George has been especially active since he retired from Los Alamos National Laboratory in 1983.

Born in 1920, the second of five sons, he has always been “second best.”

George and his wife Elizabeth moved to Los Alamos in 1949 and here they raised Martha, Guy, and Sarah. George helped create early runs at Pajarito Mountain, worked to establish East Park Pool, and was a founder of the community’s Unitarian Church.

George served on the county’s personnel and transportation boards, Del Norte Credit Union board, and the board of Sombrillo. He taught beginning computer classes in the 1980s and volunteered at blood drives. George has greeted visitors at the Valles Caldera Preserve and participated in paleontology studies of seismosaurus dinosaurs in the Ojito Wilderness Area. Today he welcomes visitors at Bandelier National Monument, where he is both a beloved and popular volunteer who donates an average of 225 volunteer hours per year. George has accumulated more than 1,600 hours at Bandelier. With his quick smile and personable nature, George personifies what it means to be a volunteer.

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