

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Army Veteran Wins Over \$1 Million Jackpot at Gila River Resorts & Casinos – Santan Mountain

CHANDLER, AZ (May 3, 2025) – A Saturday afternoon visit to Gila River Resorts & Casinos – Santan Mountain turned into a million-dollar moment for Chandler resident Michael H., who won a \$1,033,590 jackpot on a Wheel of Fortune® slot machine.

The life-changing win occurred at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 3.

Michael, an Army veteran and retired American Airlines employee of 27 years, currently drives a shuttle bus for an independent living community—often bringing residents to Santan Mountain. He and his wife, Betty, are frequent guests at the casino and typically visit on Sundays. But this time, Betty suggested they go a day early.

The couple had originally planned to vacation in Rocky Point with friends, but a last-minute cancellation from their dog sitter kept them home and brought them a huge dose unexpected luck.

“I’m glad I listened to my wife,” said Michael. “We didn’t plan on visiting the casino today but we did and now we’re leaving big winners.”

With their newfound fortune, the couple plans to purchase a new home and spend more time visiting their grandchildren who live outside of Arizona.

Longtime fans of Gila River Resorts & Casinos, Michael and Betty say the win is just the cherry on top of what they already love about Santan Mountain.

“We always feel welcome here,” said Michael. “The guest service is top-notch, and it’s really what keeps us coming back. It feels like family.”

Michael’s jackpot is among the largest awarded at Santan Mountain. It marks the fourth million dollar jackpot awarded at one of Gila River Resorts & Casinos four properties.

“We couldn’t be happier for Michael and Betty,” said Michael West, General Manager of Santan Mountain. “Their story is a perfect example of the kind of connection we strive to create with every guest.”

The Wheel of Fortune® progressive slot machine is part of a linked game network known for its multimillion-dollar payouts.

For more information about Gila River Resorts & Casinos, visit [PlayAtGila.com](https://www.PlayAtGila.com)

About Gila River Resorts & Casinos

Gila River Resorts & Casinos is Arizona's premier gaming and entertainment destination, offering world-class service, state-of-the-art gaming options, and a variety of dining and entertainment experiences. Committed to delivering innovative and memorable experiences, Gila River is the ultimate choice for gaming in Arizona. Follow Gila River Resorts and Casinos at [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [X](#).