

Felix Giles

# unfinished legend

The final 1000 miles

## ***THE STORY***

What makes a great story? Is it triumph over adversity? Is it resilience in the face of impossible odds? Courage? Perseverance? Or is it the quiet, relentless determination to keep going no matter what?

What makes someone a legend? Sometimes it's not just what they achieve...but what they survive. The story of Felix Giles has all of it. A life woven with victories, failures, government secrets, and an underdog spirit that refused to die. A story so incredible, it sounds like fiction. But he lived every second of it. And yet there's one chapter still unfinished.

At 73 years old, Felix is back. Back to conquer the one goal that has eluded him. One last challenge. One more shot at making history. This is the untold story of a man who refuses to quit.

The Legend of Felix Giles.





## ***FOUNDATIONS***

His story of overcoming starts at the age of five, when his young life was nearly cut short after being struck by a car. It was a devastating accident, one that left him broken, hospitalized, and unsure if he'd ever walk again. But even then, Felix Giles refused to quit. He didn't just recover, he fought his way back, one painful step at a time, laying the foundation for a life defined by resilience. That resilience would carry him through a life few could imagine.



## **TRAILBLAZER**

Felix Giles broke barriers as a trailblazing Black race car driver, earning the nickname “The Nighthawk.” He was the first Black driver in the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series a milestone forged through grit, skill, and relentless drive.

But racing was just one chapter.

Before his racing career, Giles served 13 years in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service during the Cold War and Vietnam. He operated beneath the ocean’s surface as a submarine driver and SONAR technician often the only Black man aboard and later became a naval instructor and a member of top-secret programs handling nuclear weapons reliability and foreign military operations.

## ***TRIUMPH***

After the Navy, he became an aerospace engineer, working on cutting edge defense projects like the B-2 Stealth Bomber at Northrop. He was also a college professor, teaching computer science and information systems, and later, a sought after motivational speaker. He practiced martial arts, mentored youth, gave back through charity, and carried himself as a man constantly reinventing what was possible.

Yet through all these accomplishments, one goal still eats away at him.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1992



A man in a blue long-sleeved shirt and jeans stands next to a white off-road vehicle with 'PRO 6' branding. The vehicle is parked in front of a building with a sign that says 'UNIVERS NEW MANAGEMENT'. The scene is outdoors, possibly at a dealership or workshop.

## ***ADVERSITY AGAIN***

It's this chapter of his story that never fully closed. A race that nearly killed him again and one he never got to finish. The legendary Baja 1,000 Off road Desert Race in Mexico.

Felix Giles was the first Black man to ever compete in it. A brutal, unforgiving, 1,000 mile test of man and machine. It was here that he crashed, violently, suffering catastrophic injuries that took years to recover from.

And now, at 73 years old, he's back.

Not for the glory. Not for the headlines.

But to finish what he started. To conquer the one goal that's still chasing him.

This is the unfinished story of Felix Giles. And the legend he's not done becoming.

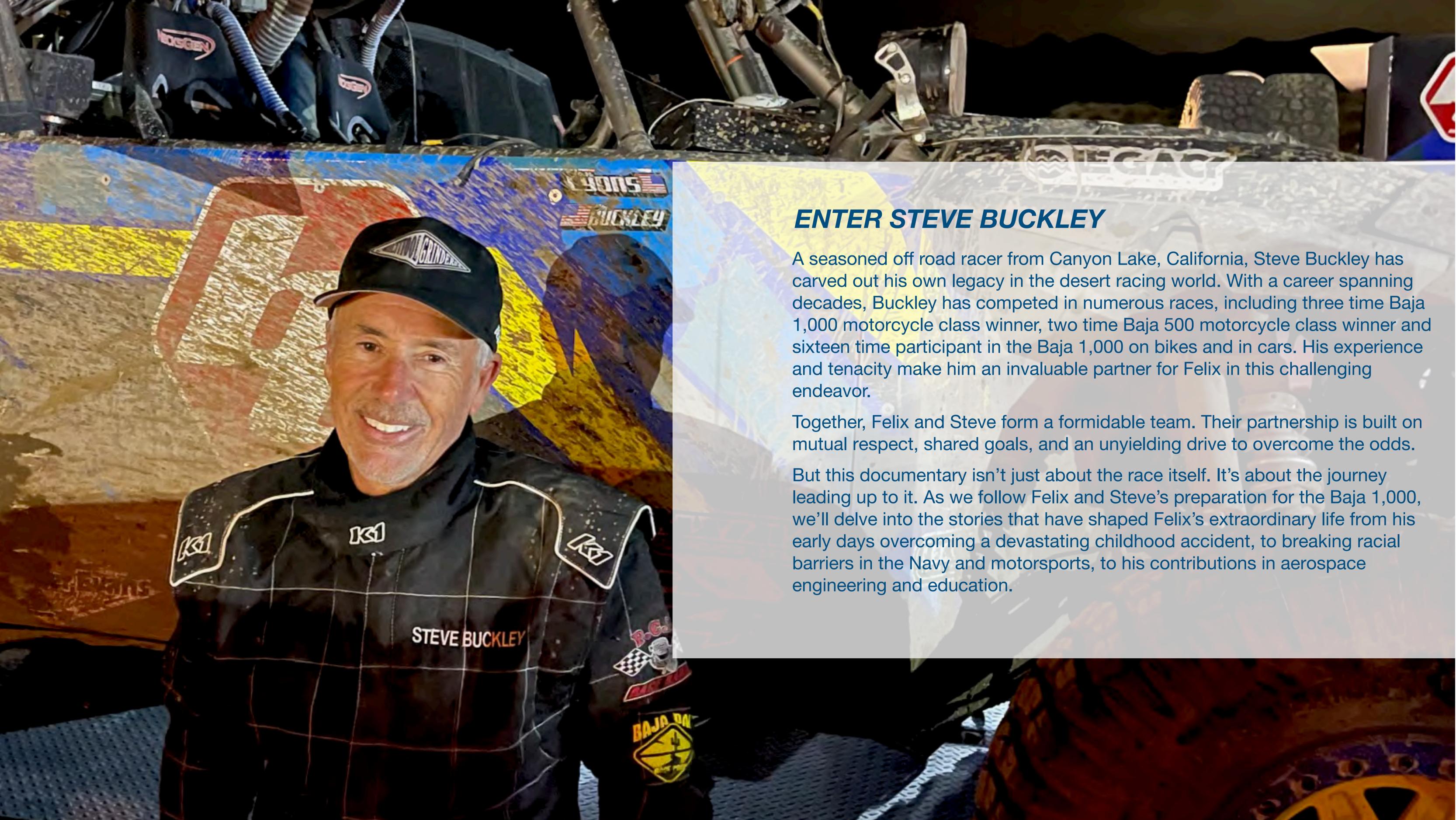


## ***PERSEVERANCE***

The story is about a comeback.

Not just any comeback, but a return to one of the most grueling off road races on Earth: the Baja 1,000. For Felix Giles, this isn't just another race. It's a personal mission. A final chapter he's determined to write on his own terms.

At 73, Felix is preparing to take on the Baja 1,000. And he's not doing it alone!



## ***ENTER STEVE BUCKLEY***

A seasoned off road racer from Canyon Lake, California, Steve Buckley has carved out his own legacy in the desert racing world. With a career spanning decades, Buckley has competed in numerous races, including three time Baja 1,000 motorcycle class winner, two time Baja 500 motorcycle class winner and sixteen time participant in the Baja 1,000 on bikes and in cars. His experience and tenacity make him an invaluable partner for Felix in this challenging endeavor.

Together, Felix and Steve form a formidable team. Their partnership is built on mutual respect, shared goals, and an unyielding drive to overcome the odds.

But this documentary isn't just about the race itself. It's about the journey leading up to it. As we follow Felix and Steve's preparation for the Baja 1,000, we'll delve into the stories that have shaped Felix's extraordinary life from his early days overcoming a devastating childhood accident, to breaking racial barriers in the Navy and motorsports, to his contributions in aerospace engineering and education.

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / DIRECTOR



As an Executive Producer, **Ritch Wedeking** has spent nearly 30 years at the helm of global productions, bringing together creative teams and complex logistics to transform ideas into unforgettable content. He has led hundreds of projects across the U.S. and internationally.

Whether managing commercial shoots, branded campaigns, or long-form storytelling, Ritch's strength lies in his ability to merge big picture vision with on the ground execution. He is known for his calm under pressure, his deep production knowledge, and his ability to keep crews inspired and clients confident, no matter the scale.

As a Director, Ritch brings a storyteller's instinct to every frame, with a focus on emotionally grounded, visually driven narratives. His background in cinematography and deep respect for craft give him a unique ability to communicate across departments and lead with clarity.

Ritch's directing style is rooted in authenticity—whether he's shooting in the dust and adrenaline of motorsports or crafting quiet, character-driven pieces. His ability to draw out compelling performances, capture visceral moments, and elevate story through image makes him a sought-after voice behind the camera.

In "unfinished legend", Ritch brings both worlds together—leading as Executive Producer while also stepping into the Director's chair to help tell a story of grit, legacy, and the unrelenting pursuit of one man's unfinished dream.

## DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



**Anthony Arendt** is an award-winning Director of Photography whose lens has captured everything from the raw grit of off road racing to the soulful rhythms of American music. With a career spanning over 30 years, Arendt has established himself as a versatile cinematographer, adept at bringing stories to life across various genres.

In the realm of motorsports, Arendt's work on the documentary *Dust to Glory* showcased his ability to capture the high-octane energy of the Baja 1000 race. His expertise in filming "anything with wheels" is further evident in projects like *Urban Outlaw*, which delves into the world of custom car culture.

Beyond the track, Arendt's cinematography in the acclaimed documentary *Muscle Shoals* highlighted his skill in conveying the emotional depth of musical history. His collaboration with Nikon on the short film *Joy Ride* demonstrated his proficiency in utilizing cutting-edge technology to tell compelling stories.

Arendt's diverse portfolio also includes work on major commercial campaigns, narrative films, and promotional content, reflecting his adaptability and creative vision. His dedication to the craft continues to drive him to explore new storytelling avenues, making him a sought after Director of Photography in the industry.



**This is a story of resilience. Of partnership. Of unfinished business.**

And it all leads to the moment when Felix, alongside Steve Buckley, aims to conquer the Baja 1,000 and cement his legacy once and for all.



Twitch Films, Inc.

**Ritch Wedeking** / Executive Producer

[ritch@twitchfilms.com](mailto:ritch@twitchfilms.com)

773-251-0582





Felix Giles  
**unfinished legend**  
The final 1000 miles

