



county club and golf association events.

Carr did play at a GCSAA Conference the year that Mel Lucas was president and he met President Gerald Ford. Ford shook his hand and said, "We beat the hell out of you during the War of Independence, but you got even. You gave us golf!"

And Scotland also gave us Stanley Carr, a gentleman and a true professional in our business.

JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS

PRESIDENTS AWARD EGCSA

Wilson Took Early FGCSA from Shoe Boxes to Computers

When Dwight Wilson was president of a loose threesome of local chapters in the 1970s he carried the association's business in a shoe box. By the end of his tenure he had doubled the association because he had to use two shoe boxes to hold everything.

This past September, Wilson was presented the Presidents Award for his pioneering service to the profession at the Everglades Chapter meeting in Naples. President Mike Mongoven, CGCS made the presentation.

Wilson spent a lot of time traveling among the three chapters: South Florida, Everglades and West Coast. Long before fax machines and computers, he pioneered the association in Florida.

Dwight grew up in Palm Beach County where he spent a lot of time in and around the Jupiter inlet. He attended the University of Florida, where he studied agriculture



Dwight Wilson, left, received his 1998 FGCSA President's award from Mike Mongoven, CGCS at an Everglades chapter meeting last fall. Photo by Bill Kilpatrick.

and entomology until the Korean War robbed him of his last year of college. While in the service, he met his wife Christa when he was stationed in Germany.

After the war he returned to Florida but was unable to complete his degree. He went to work with his father who had a garden supply and spray business. Eventually they expanded the business to grassing bermudagrass lawns. This started to go well and someone suggested that the Ormond bermudagrass that they were planting would work well on golf courses. They started planting golf courses with bermuda.

If you work on a course

built in the late 50s to mid-60s you may be on a course planted by Dwight. Jupiter Island and Rio Mar in Vero Beach are two beachside examples of his work. In 1966, Dwight did some work at the South Seas Plantation on Captiva Island. The developer liked his work so much that he convinced Dwight to stick around to manage the course. Dwight planted the golf course on a sandbar then stayed around to manage that sandbar for 17 years. He lived on the course and raised his two children on Captiva. What a spot for kids to grow up!

While at South Seas Plantation, he hooked up

with Bob Sanderson to start the Everglades Chapter. He held all of the offices and eventually presided over the state association.

In 1983 Dwight helped to build and grow in Hideaway G.C. in Fort Myers. Dwight eventually retired from the Hideaway after years of battling Tifway II on his greens. Dwight relaxed by sailing his boat in the Gulf and continues to do so in retirement. He has a couple of grandchildren who visit. He is really enjoying his retirement and when he is not sailing he is playing his guitar, gardening or traveling. The Wilsons like to return to Europe and Germany to see his wife's family.

Dwight saw our industry and association grow from infancy to this huge business that it has become. He has seen grass change from common to Ormond to Tifway. He has seen the FGCSA grow from a shoe box to what we have today.

SCOTT BELL

NIKE TOUR FLORIDA CLASSIC

Hosting Tour Event is a Winner for Gainesville C. C.

Hosting the Nike Tour's Florida Classic this past February turned out to be a win-win situation for all parties involved. The Nike Tour got a superbly conditioned golf course to play and Gainesville C. C. got some long overdue improvements.

Superintendent Buddy Keene learned last October that his course would be hosting the event this