IN MEMORIAM

This past spring we lost two of our legendary superintendents who served their chapters and our industry well. We take a moment to remember them, their leadership and their service.

Adam Yurigan, Jr.
Adam was born in Turtle Creek, Pa. and attended the University of Pittsburgh. On June 5, 1943 he married Elizabeth Barnes. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was discharged in 1945. Adam was in the golf industry for 70 years. In the 1940s through the 1970s he held positions as golf professional and superintendent at a number of courses in Iowa. He eventually migrated to Florida and became the superintendent at the Rio Pinar CC in Orlando. Later he moved to the east coast and worked at the Johns Island Club, Hawks Nest GC and as a consultant to the Vero Beach CC. Adam was passionate about giving back to the community and to the golf industry. He was a mentor to many starting out in the golf course business. He was an active member of the Rotary Club, PGA of America and the GCSAA. Adam was one of the founding members and first president of the Central Florida GCSA and he also was a member of the Treasure Coast GCSA.

Al Ross, CGCS
Al Ross was born in New York and attended Farmingdale State University, majoring in golf course turf management. Shortly after graduation he moved to Florida to start his career as a turf manager. At that time his mother lived in New Port Richey, and learning of Al’s plans she made some inquiries on his behalf concerning jobs in the area. Chuck McCracken at Beacon Woods GC hired Ross as his assistant, and Ross was there for construction through grow-in and then some. Five years later Ross got his first head superintendent job at Inverness where he stayed for two and a half years. Ross then relocated to the Sunrise CC in Ft. Lauderdale where he remained for 19 years. In 1986 he joined the South Florida GCSA and served as president in 1991-92. He continued his board service beyond his presidency, assisting with education planning, serving at the will of the chapter.

He valued the networking and exchange of ideas at monthly meetings, which he felt helped him fine-tune his programs and efficiency on the job. His favorite SFGCSA event was the annual benefit event for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, because it was a very worthy cause benefiting the children in the community.

Ross is survived by his wife Candace and their children, Alfred, Courtney and Melissa.

(Editors Note: Thanks to Bob Klitz and his article on Al Ross in the Summer 1999 Florida Green for information on Al’s life and contributions.)

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