In Remembrance of Clifton Olinger

Clifton Olinger, age 74, was buried at Beulah Veterans Cemetery on January 25. He was superintendent at Cambridge Country Club for more than 20 years. Prior to that, he was superintendent at Caroline Country Club. He also worked with the Shields Brothers during construction and bringing in the Twin Shields Club. While at Cambridge, he also doubled as teaching pro for several years.

On January 21 Clifton Olinger died. I wouldn’t call this an obituary. For those who knew him, he would rather be remembered like this: A man of strong, deep feelings for other people. A lover of music, especially that of the big band era. He had definite opinions on many subjects, and frequently expressed them in close circles.

Proud of being a non-conformist, Clifton laughed about having twice earned a stripe during his four years in service, only to lose them and walk out still a "buck private."

He never really knew how many people loved him. Once he said he had a party, invited all his friends, and both of them came.

Cliff cared for the grass and the soil and was good at it. I remember his saying after ten days of humidity and temperature in the 90s, "I now know why they don't grow bentgrass in Florida."

Cliff was a good player, a fierce competitor, and the "greatest" at playing the mind game. If he had written down all the hints, the tips, and the tricks about the wonderful game of golf, I’m sure there’d be enough information for another "Harry Penick’s Little Red Book."

This is the Cliff we know, the Cliff we loved, and the Cliff we will miss. As as only Cliff could say it, "You can take that to the bank."

— Ben Stagg

NY Audubon Society Offers Wildlife Factsheets

The Audubon Society of New York State, Inc. offers a comprehensive set of fact sheets on wildlife—including responsible ways to control nuisance pests on the golf course as well as how to attract desirable species.

For more info call GCSAA's government relations program at 913-832-4470 or the Audubon Society of NY at 518-767-9051.