

Remembrances of Dr. Indyk:

Among his many achievements was the establishment of the New Jersey Turf Expo which he chaired from 1974 to 1996. He also led the creation of the Sports Turf Managers Association's Certified Sports Field Managers (CSFM) program and was the Founding Father of Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey serving as their advisor.

Indyk served as a consultant in the construction of the Los Angeles Coliseum playing field and he was called in to consult when Los Angeles was preparing to host the 1984 Olympics.

From 1969 to 1973, he was the first executive secretary of the American Sod Producers Association, which would change its name to Turfgrass Producers International in 1994.

Indyk was recognized by many turf organizations for his service, including:

- 1978: National Irrigation Man of the Year Award
- 1985: New Jersey Turfgrass Hall of Fame Award
- 1989: Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey Distinguished Service Award
- 1989: Sports Turf Managers Association's Harry Gill Award
- 1999: SportsTurf Man of the Year Award
- 2002: SFMANJ Honorary Member

Remembrances of Dr. Indyk:

Steve Wightman

"Dr. Indyk was, indeed, a good friend and was always willing to share his immense and practical knowledge with anyone, no matter what their status. He would engage in conversation with students and industry novices with the same intensity and respect as with his fellow colleagues in academia circles. Regardless of his audience, his wit and humor would always put people at ease.

"With his practical demonstrations, he would take the often confusing and technical topic of soil science and make it interesting and enlightening. By the end of his presentation, filled with his engaging wit and subtle humor, everyone left with a much greater understanding of plant, soil and water relationships.

"Honesty, integrity respect and genuine are words that always come to mind when Henry's name is mentioned. The industry has lost a valuable asset and thousands have lost a good friend."

— Steve Wightman, Stadium Turf Manager, Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego, CA

Kent Kurtz

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"I am one of those fortunate people who have had the privilege of knowing and working with Henry for the past 30 years.

"I remember when both Henry and I were on the program in Orlando, Florida in the mid 1970's for Erick Madisen who sponsored the National Institute for Grounds Management. This was the group that supported the early STMA leaders and allowed the infant STMA to hold its first meetings.

"Between the two of us we presented eight different 45-minute talks on various aspects of turf and sports turf. Usually these meetings ran for three days and we were expected to pay for our airline tickets, most of our meals and at least one nights lodging. We became known as the free speakers.

"I used to call him 'Grumpy Hank' because he was always gripin' about something!"

— Dr. Kent Kurtz, Professor of Turgrass Science, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA

Henry Schiller

"Henry was just passionate about

professionalism. I was president of STMA during 1997-1998. That was when we all agreed STMA needed to follow the lead of the golf course superintendents to create a certification program. I appointed Henry to take on the certification committee and we had some great people on that committee. It's a great program, due mostly to Henry's guidance.

"Henry was always pushing me to act the part of a professional; to dress the part. He would yell at me because I don't wear ties. I had to wear ties all through grammar school and high school, so I never wear ties.

"But on the first day of the STMA Conference this January, in honor of Henry, I will wear a tie."

— Henry Schiller, CSFM, Grounds, Transportation and Sports Field Manager, Lake Forest Academy, Chicago, IL

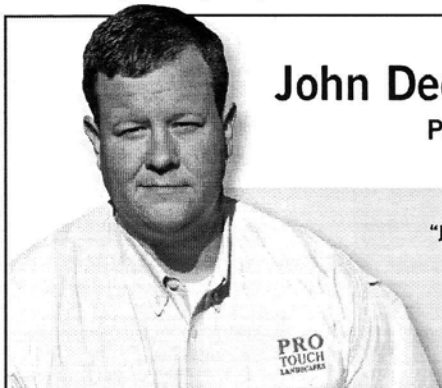
Eleanora Murfitt-Hermann

President of Sports Field Managers Association of NJ

I will never forget the day Henry changed my life. It was at a Rutgers

Athletic Field Construction Class when he asked for volunteers to start a new association for NJ. I was eager to learn more about dirt and grass (Sorry Henry, Soil and Turf). I saw the opportunity to start something important that would benefit other Sports Field Managers. From that day on I learned more from him than I ever dreamed. Henry became a father to me and many Sports Field Managers here in NJ, NY and Pa. He was always eager to answer our questions, always answering them as if one was as important as the other. His dream was to get all the Green Industry Associations to work together, to stop duplicating information, to have one big convention that would bring us all together to find all the information we wanted in one place. He and only he was instrumental in helping each individual Association in the Green Industry. Henry genuinely cared about each and every one of us and this industry. Henry, you will be missed.

— Eleanora Murfitt-Hermann, President of Sports Field Managers Association of NJ ♦



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