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 Dave Brandenburg wrote about the passing of another superintendent colleague and friend, Bruce Knickel. Here are Dave's words:

For those of you who may have met Bruce Knickel of Campbellsport through the years, I am sad to report that he died on Monday, February 3.

Bruce built and owned Indian Trails Golf Course in Campbellsport on the property he used to farm. He started out with a green and then a couple of par 3's and then slowly built it up until he had 18 holes with elevated tees and par fours and fives. At 81 years old he still did a majority of the work himself. I have ground greensmower reels for Bruce for a number of years, although he did his own gang reels. He said he did not trust himself with the greens reels.

Indian Trails is a private course for Bruce's friends and he charges no fees. He did use the barter system and traded tee signs and scorecards for play. He once told me he did not want to charge because he would have to follow the government's rules, not his own. He allowed the Campbellsport High School Golf Team to practice there since the course is across the street from the high school.

Never one to complain, Bruce has been battling

congestive heart failure for nine years. I last saw him in December and did not know. The medicines could not keep him going anymore, according to his son Steve.

Bruce was one of those grandfather figures you just wished would live forever. He always had a smile and a positive attitude. And from his hobby, you can tell he loved the game of golf and the career we all make our living from.

I think Bruce lived a life many of us dream about - build 18 holes for family and friends so that while you are pulling that gang mower, everyone knows your name and gives you a wave.

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 And so we close for another issue. I'll end by sending my "thank you" to our volunteer writers, our advertisers, our printer, and to Dave Brandenburg. *The Grass Roots* was selected for "Best" in its category in the 2002 GCSAA chapter publications contest. The Grass Roots is done for the right reasons, and the recognition for that is always nice. And what a terrific way *The Grass Roots* is to record, for all time, our history. It warms the cockles of the heart of the chapter historian.

Have a good spring; it's still possible, at this date, that 2003 will be our best year ever in golf. ♣

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