

Profile:

Middle Atlantic PGA Professional Bob Schuh

Remember the old three-wheeled golf carts? Still have a pair of those plaid pants or white polyester pants you used to wear with the wide belts? Do you recall when woods were really made of wood – persimmon, to be exact?

For 76-year old PGA Professional Bob Schuh, his love of golf began as a young man growing up in Massachusetts. At the age of 15, Bob won the New England State Junior Amateur. That was the start of a passion for golf that has lasted well over 50 years.

His family moved to Baltimore and Bob worked as an assistant professional under Bob Williams at the Naval Academy GC and then under Billy Gilbert at Argyle. That is, until he was drafted into the Army.

In 1956 Bob reported for training at Fort Monmouth, NJ and from there he went to Fort Benning, GA. Bob served for two years overseas, mostly in Germany and France.

Upon his return to the States, Bob went to work for Vic Conti at Chestnut Ridge CC. In August of '59, he married Joan Zito. Bob and Joan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. They have two sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren.

Bob really made his mark while at Crofton CC, where he was the Head Professional for 14 years, starting in 1964. During that time, he ran a very successful junior golf program. In fact, several PGA Professionals were once juniors under Schuh at Crofton: Bob Fretwell, Old South; Nancy Maunder, Plantation at Ponte Vedra in Fl; Mark Herrmann, Life Member formerly of Hog Neck GC; Billy Malloy; John Ungert; and Jeff Sheehan, Renditions GC to name but a few.

While there, Bob initiated the South Atlantic Junior, which brought kids from all over the United States. The players were housed by Crofton families.

Bob has always been an exemplary professional - demanding excellence from his employees and himself. "Always fair, but firm" would describe him well.

Bob left Crofton in '78 and worked for a few years at Lakewood CC in Rockville. During that time, he leased a rural 18-hole club in south eastern PA called Pleasant Valley.

Since 1983 Bob has been the Head Professional at Pleasant Valley, which was a part of the Philadelphia Section. But after just a few years, Bob, whose heart belonged to the MAGPA, was able to change the boundaries of the Middle Atlantic Section to include Pleasant Valley.

Schuh purchased Pleasant Valley in 1994. Shortly after, he oversaw the complete renovation and addition of the clubhouse which can now accommodate 120 people in the dining room overlooking the golf course.

Over the years, Schuh has built a loyal base of active members and non-members who support many tournaments, including a three-day club championship. For the members of the MAPGA, Bob formed the Senior Association, designed especially for pros who still love to play and compete.

In October of 2011, Bob will celebrate being a PGA Professional for 50 years! Quite an accomplishment. Does he look forward to retirement? "Not at this early age," says Schuh. "I love what I do. I always have. Why would I retire?" So what does he do in the off-season? Bob bowls and reads and does more of what he loves best of all: spending time with his wife, kids and grandkids.

Bob would love to hear from you! Letters may be sent to Bob Schuh / Pleasant Valley Golf Club / 8467 Pleasant Valley Rd / Stewartstown, PA 17363.