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## **David S. Gourlay, CGSA Founding Member, 1923-2018**

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David S Gourlay Sr

David S. Gourlay, one of the founding members of Canadian Golf Superintendents Association, died Wednesday at the age of 95.

David Gourlay was born in Johnstone, Scotland in 1923 and was a member of the RAF during WW II before coming to Canada.

He entered the turf management course at the University of Massachusetts in 1951 and worked as a golf course superintendent at the Chedoke, Kapuskasing, Pine Valley, Summit, Summerlea and Thornhill, where he remained for 30 years.

Mr. Gourlay inspired numerous individuals in the industry, including his family. His son David has worked at several locations in Canada and the U.S., where he is general manager of Boca Woods Country Club in Florida, and his grandson Matthew is currently the CGCS at Colbert Hills Golf Club in Kansas.

*"He was a true gentleman and extremely dedicated to the association and the profession of superintendent,"* said CGSA past president Jim Flett, who worked for Gourlay in 1984.

He was a founding member of the CGSA and a member and president of the Ontario Golf Superintendents Association ( OGSA ) in 1968.

He went on to become CGSA president in 1973 and editor of CGSA's GreenMaster magazine from 1974-1981.

Awards include CGSA Superintendent of the Year in 1982, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America ( GCSAA ) Distinguished Service Award in 1987 and CGSA's John B. Steel Distinguished Service Award in 1996.

A donation will be made in Gourlay's memory to the CGSA Scholar's Fund, which is used to support future turf professionals in completing their studies.

A celebration of life will be held on Tuesday, May 22 from 4 – 8 p.m. at the Thornhill Club, 7994 Yonge Street in Thornhill, Ont.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in David's memory may be made to Canadian Cancer Society, or Autism Ontario.



## Founding Member of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association Passes Away

May 18th, 2018



On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA), it is with great sadness that we inform you that David S. Gourlay one of the founding members of CGSA passed away on May 16th at the age of 95.

David Gourlay was born in Johnstone, Scotland in 1923 and was a proud member of the RAF during WWII before coming to Canada. He attended the Turf Management Course at the University of Massachusetts in 1951. He worked as a golf course superintendent at the Chedoke GC, Kapuskasing GC, Pine Valley GC, Summit GC, Summerlea GC and Thornhill GC where he remained for 30 years. Mr. Gourlay inspired numerous individuals in the industry, including his family. His son David has worked at several locations in Canada and the US where he is currently the General Manager of Boca Woods (FL) Country Club and his grandson Matthew is currently the CGCS at Colbert Hills (KS) Golf Club. CGSA Past President Jim Flett, AGS who worked for David in 1984 says, "He was a true gentleman and extremely dedicated to the association and the profession of superintendent."

Some of Mr. Gourlay's accomplishments:

- Founding Member of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association ( CGSA ) and member (1966)
- President, Ontario Golf Superintendents Association ( OGSA ) in 1968
- President, Canadian Golf Superintendents Association ( CGSA ) in 1973
- Editor of CGSA's GreenMaster magazine from 1974-1981
- CGSA's Superintendent of the Year in 1982
- Golf Course Superintendents Association of America ( GCSAA ) Distinguished Service Award in 1987
- CGSA's John B. Steel Distinguished Service Award in 1996

Thank you, David, for your outstanding contributions as a Golf Superintendent, to the profession and as a 52-year member of the CGSA. You will be greatly missed!

A donation will be made in David's memory to the CGSA Scholar's Fund, which is used to support future turf professionals in completing their studies.

A celebration of David's Life will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 4 - 8 p.m. at the Thornhill Country Club, 7994 Yonge Street, Thornhill, ON.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in David's memory may be made to Canadian Cancer Society, or Autism Ontario. For a link to the obituary, please click here: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/en-ca/obituaries/aurora-on/david-gourlay-7852926>.