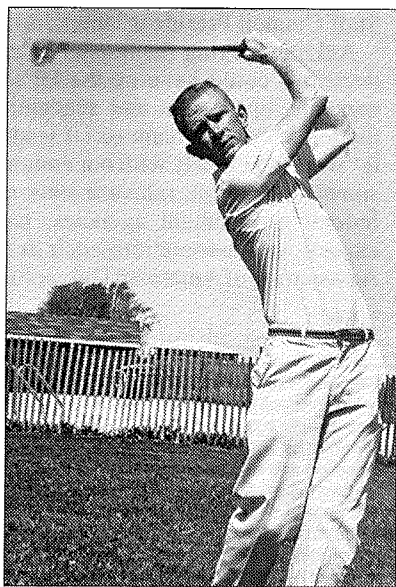


Lowell Thomas Hockett



Lowell Thomas Hockett, age 84, of Sarasota, Florida, and Franklin, North Carolina, passed away March 2. Preceding him in death were his parents, Norman and Gladys Hockett, of Grinnell, Iowa, additionally his older brother Robert of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was born on August 14, 1940, in Grinnell, Iowa. Lowell, a lifelong academic, graduated from Grinnell High School ('58), Grinnell College ('62), and received advanced education at the University of Iowa where in back-to-back years he received both his Masters ('65) and Education Specialist ('66) Degrees.

He served as Principal at schools in Ames, Iowa, Zion, Illinois, and Kirkwood, Missouri. In 1980, he was employed in numerous capacities within the Sarasota County School District including Gulf Gate, Fruitville, Brentwood, and Glen Allen Elementary schools. Most of his years were spent at Phillippi Shores and he finally retired in 2003. After his retirement, he would gladly fill in for his principal colleagues in their times of need.

When Lowell wasn't occupying his vacation home in Franklin, NC, where he enjoyed entertaining family and friends, he was quickly drawn to his favorite Sarasota food place due to how its welcoming environment and comradery matched his chronic positive disposition. His 'family,' as he referred to the workers of the Clark Rd. Chick-fil-A, were always cheerful to him and eventually hired him as the oldest greeter at their location.

Lowell's passion in life was playing competitive golf. During his collegiate experience, he was on the Grinnell College golf team for three years, all three years of which he was designated Most Valuable Golfer which is a feat never done by another in Grinnell College golf history. Lowell was multiple time Mid-Western golf conference medalist which proved his status as a player among the four included states. Post-graduation, Lowell was a reigning Grinnell Country Club Champion from the years 1963-1965. Lowell played golf well into his later years where he would never turn down another round or another bet.

His greatest joys in life were his grandchildren, Taylor who is a social worker, TJ who is a senior at Florida State University, and Austin who is a junior at Riverview High School. Lowell is survived by his wife, Judie, younger brother Edwin, and two sons Eric and Chad, both of Sarasota. Lowell leaves behind his sister-in-law, Diane Hockett of Ann Arbor, MI, and numerous nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his closest friends Shawn & Wendy Davison, and Charles O'Hara of Camelot Lakes. Those who touched his life in a special way were Elaine McAllister of Bay Indies, and Affinity hospice at-home nurses Jennifer Capstick, LPN, and Shaundell Shuler, CNA.

Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, March 8, at 3 p.m. where an hour of viewing will be held an hour before at 2 p.m., the location of which is St. John's Global Methodist Church (6611 Proctor Rd. Sarasota, FL). A stream will also be available on the church website. In lieu of flowers, donations and condolences can be made out to Judie Hockett: 5597 Stonehaven Ln. Sarasota, FL, 34233.