Max Shields, PGA – Iowa Section Scholarship

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Applicant Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent Name if high school senior: _____ Parent Cell Phone if high school senior: _____

High School Attended: _____ Graduation Date: _____

I have been accepted at a college or university. Yes_____ No_____

College institution planning on attending or current college, university, technical institution: _____

Employer ***(if applicable)***: _____ Supervisor Name and Email ***(if applicable)*** _____

I am a PGA Associate: Yes ____ No_____ PGA Education Level / Enrolled In _____

Beginning enrollment date in the PGA Professional Golf Management Program ***(if applicable)*** _____

Anticipated graduation from PGA PGM Program, College, University or Technical Institution _____

Does your employer subsidize your education expenses? Yes ____ No ____ What Percentage? _____

I certify that the above information is correct. Signature: _____

The Iowa PGA Section Foundation annually awards a scholarship to support individuals in furthering their education and career in the golf industry, which includes but is not limited to the PGA Profession, Agronomy, Club Management, Hospitality and Membership. At least one scholarship will be awarded in the amount of $2,000.

Applicants much reside within the boundaries of the Iowa PGA Section and the State of Iowa to apply. The Iowa PGA Section is bounded on the west by U.S. Highway 71 and includes an area of western Illinois from a point north of Quincy, east to near Springfield and directly north. It includes the major cities of Monmouth, Macomb, Galesburg, Moline, Rock Island, Kewanee and Galena. It does not include the cities of Freeport, Springfield or Quincy.

Scholarship winners are selected based on their experiences, activity and future career goals in the golf industry, leadership skills and financial need. Applicants must either be a high school graduate, post-graduate or even someone looking into golf as a second career attending classes to assist in their career goals.

Applicants must email or mail the completed application to the scholarship committee on or prior to **September 10, 2027.**

Send to: Iowa PGA Section, 3184 Highway 22, Riverside, IA 52327
or Call 319-648-0026 with any questions.
Email to: tgoudy@pgahq.com

Applicants are required to submit this form and responses to the following questions to be considered for the one year $2,000 Max Shields Scholarship:

1. Applicant must include a self-statement concerning his/her activities and experiences, background in golf, future career goals and financial need for the scholarship award.

2. The Scholarship Committee requests applicants submit one recommendation – from an employer, a PGA Professional or other non-family connection to address the applicant's achievements and dedication to their selected career.

THE MAX SHIELDS STORY

The story below is a significant part of its history, as a fond remembrance for those who knew Max Shields and to pass along the story of a much-loved man to those who came along later.

Max Shields was born on December 1, 1931, in Ottumwa, Iowa. He passed on Sunday, August 15, 2021, at the Crystal Heights Care Center in Oskaloosa. He graduated from Oskaloosa High School with the class of 1950. On March 10, 1951, he was united in marriage to Marilyn Allgood in Oskaloosa. To this union three children were born, Steve, Michael, and Becky.

Max played golf as a youngster in Oskaloosa winning several state-wide junior golf events. He was medalist for several Oskaloosa High School events. He was a member of the Oskaloosa team that finished 2nd in the state championship at Cedar Rapids Country Club in 1948. He competed in the National Junior Championship and lost in the quarterfinals. He won the Oskaloosa Men's City Championship three times.

Max grew up on the Edmundson Golf Course in Oskaloosa. His father helped build the original 9-hole golf course. His family lived in the house on the golf course.

Early in Max's work career he was an Engineer for the M&S Railroad. Max loved working for the railroad, but the closing of the Oskaloosa line required a career change. A talented golfer, Max decided to pursue a career managing a golf course and becoming a golf professional. His love of the game turned into a passion to not only improve his game daily but to help others discover their potential on the golf course.

He was the PGA Golf Pro at Elmhurst Country Club in Oskaloosa from April 1, 1972, until December 29, 2010. He spent his last few years working part-time as a consultant for the Club, mostly on the agronomy side of the golf operations.

He cherished his time at Elmhurst, especially the lifelong friends he made on and off the course. His unique sense of humor and outgoing personality made it easy for him to make lifelong loyal friends. Max became a member of the PGA of America in 1972. He was looking forward to his 50-year membership milestone in April of 2022.

He also worked as the PGA Professional/Golf Course Superintendent at the old Ottumwa Municipal Golf Course. He also served as the Director of Golf at Shadow Hills Golf Club in Lubbock, TX for a couple of seasons. His wife, Marilyn, also helped in the golf operations during all of their stops.

One of his greatest contributions to the game was his love of children and his efforts to involve them by organizing youth clinics and programs.

His family includes his three children and their spouses, Steve and Julie Shields of San Antonio, Texas, Michael and Linda Shields of Bloomfield, IA, and Becky and Steve Gearhart of Naples, FL; four grandchildren, Lauren (Matt) Hubbell, Rachael (Jeff) Clutter, Ben (Anna) Gearhart, and Samuel Gearhart; three great grandchildren; two step great grandchildren; two brothers, Carl (Louise) Shields of Tucson, Arizona, and Roger (Jo) Shields of Monument, Colorado; a sister in law, Carol Shields of Arizona; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, Marilyn; Max was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Claude Shields; and two sisters, Claire Redman and Joann DeLong.

Today, the memory of Max Shields lives on. The Max Shields Scholarship Fund, sponsored by the Iowa Section PGA Foundation, was formed in 2024 by his three children. Steve is a 46-year member of the PGA of America. Michael is a retired Golf Course Superintendent. Becky is now retired.