

The Class of 2020



Dave Fearis

(1946 -2021)

The "Guru of Grass"

For more than 40 years, **Dave Fearis** served the game of golf and his fellow golf course superintendents in various local and national capacities. He was Superintendent at Blue Hills Country Club from 1985 - 2000.

Mr. Fearis served on the Boards of the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association, the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation and the Golf Advisory Board for the city of Leawood. In retirement he continued to work on committees and task forces for many related organizations.

He taught Turf Management at Illinois Central College, wrote numerous articles on turf grass management for various trade publications and was a featured speaker at countless conferences and seminars presented by industry organizations.



Mr. Fearis was the national President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) in 1999 and served on its Board of Directors (1993-2000). In 2016 he received the association's Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award.

Locally, Fearis served as President (2006-07), Vice President (2003-06), Secretary (2001-03) and member of the Scholarship Committee (2000-10) for the The First Tee of Greater Kansas City.

In recognition of his outstanding service to the profession in both 1990 and 1998 he received the Chester H. Mendenhall Award (named for the 2013 KC Golf Hall of Fame honoree) which provides scholarships for deserving college students majoring in turf grass research or golf course management.