

## **Bob Stone**

(1930 - 1996)

As a touring professional, **Bob Stone** found success throughout the country from the mid-1950s through the 1980s, but he always returned to his club professional roots at Rockwood, and later at Crackerneck Golf Club in Independence. Stone won titles in numerous state Opens and was a presence on the PGA Tour.

His greatest moment may have come in his playoff loss in the 1981 US Senior Open at Oakland Hills. Tied after 72 holes with Arnold Palmer and Billy Casper, Stone forged into the lead during the early stages of the 18-hole Monday playoff, eventually losing to

Palmer but besting Casper by three shots.



He was a US Open local qualifier nine times (medalist six times) and Senior Open qualifier twice.

Stone's record was hard to match, setting some 30 course records and winning more than 45 professional tournaments, counting the Iowa Open (3 times); the Kansas Open (2); the Nebraska Open (3); the Heart of America Open in Salina, KS (4); the Irvin Cobb Tournament in Paducah, KY (5); and the Wisconsin Open among his many championships.

Bob Stone combined impressive skills as a player with an ability to connect with local golfers as a teacher and friend.

## Mr. Stone's record also includes:

Pacific Coast Air Force Champion 1953, 1954 Topeka Open Champion 1959, 1960 Homesteader Championship (Neb.) 1960, 1961, 1962 Wichita Open Champion 1962, 1963 Midwest Section PGA Champion 1969, 1975, 1976, 1980