

MARYLAND *Squash*

2019 Awards

CELEBRATION

at Meadow Mill Athletic Club





EXTRAORDINARY
VOLUNTEER SERVICE



CONSEQUENTIAL IMPACT
ON THE EVOLUTION
OF THE GAME



EXCEPTIONAL RECORD
OF COMPETATIVE PLAY

The Grand Ladies of Maryland Squash

Over the past half century, beginning in 1970 with the late Margaret Riehl who as President of the United States Woman's Squash Racquets Association spearheaded the consolidation of organized women's and men's Squash in America into what is now U.S. Squash, the participation of women has exploded nationwide. Thanks,

in large part, to Meadow Mill Athletic Club, Baltimore is a center for coaching and competitive play. Thousands, including most local high schools and colleges, have chosen Meadow Mill to be their home courts. Beginning with junior girls, hundreds of women in Maryland have made their mark as talented state and national

players – hundreds more enjoy Squash as an everyday life changing pursuit. For more than a quarter century, the women featured on the front cover have made a substantial contribution to the advancement of Squash in Maryland as champion players, coaches, managers and volunteers. They are the grand ladies of Maryland Squash.

Front Cover

Top Row (left to right)

Vaughan Schmidt – 2005 Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award, 2019 Hall of Fame

Nancy Wolf – 2019 Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award

Abby Markoe – 2019 Nancy Cushman Impact Award

Lisson Tutrone – 2014 Hall of Fame

Bottom Row (left to right)

Elizabeth Everts – 2019 Hall of Fame

Nancy Cushman – 1995 Hall of Fame, 2019 Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award,
2018 Nancy Cushman Impact Award

Patrice Cromwell – 2018 Hall of Fame



Not Shown on the Front Cover

Narelle Krizek is one of Maryland Squash's Grand Ladies.

She was inducted into the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame in 2011.

Norell has been a Maryland State, National, and World PSA Champion.

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*Writing & Illustrations by John Voneiff
Published by Uptown Press*

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The Maryland Squash Hall of Fame, Robert Evert Outstanding Achievement Award and Nancy Cushman Impact Award are managed by the Board and Officers of Maryland Squash through their respective committees. Maryland Squash members are invited to submit prospective candidates for consideration.

Maryland Squash has a new website (www.marylandsquash.com) that is still being developed. Members are encouraged to review the website, make recommendations and contributions.





Meadow Mill Athletic Club

3600 Clipper Mill Road

Baltimore MD 21211

410.235.7000

From Nancy Cushman

Welcome!

I am thrilled that Nancy Wolf is receiving the Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award. No one has contributed more in terms of managing big squash events, like the US Nationals – singles and doubles, than Nancy. We too often overlook the people that make events happen. Nancy has been one of those people. She has been doing it for over 30 years. A special thankyou to Maryland Squash for recognizing Nancy with this award for a job well done!

Lizz Everts and Vaughan Schmidt are being inducted into the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame. I am so proud of these two women and their accomplishments. I have had the good fortune to not only know them both for over 30 years, but also to have them be my left wall partner in numerous local and national tournaments. You will not find two fiercer, more honest or capable competitors. They are truly two of Maryland's best.

Abby Markoe and Peter Heffernan are receiving an award for their significant impact on squash over many years. Maryland Squash kindly named The Impact Award in my honor. It is incredibly special to have an award named after me. Now, I get to hand that award to two people that have made such an impact on squash in Baltimore and across the country. It has been inspirational to work with both of them.

Denis Bourke has simply been one of Maryland's greatest singles champions for more than thirty years. So, "Congratulations" Denny for being inducted into the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame. You came to Baltimore over thirty years ago, already an accomplished squash player, and continued your standout play – first at the Roland Park Racquet Club and then at Meadow Mill. It's difficult to imagine that so many years of standout play and friendship have slipped by. We have missed you recently because of your back surgery; but I look forward to seeing you back at Meadow Mill and on court.

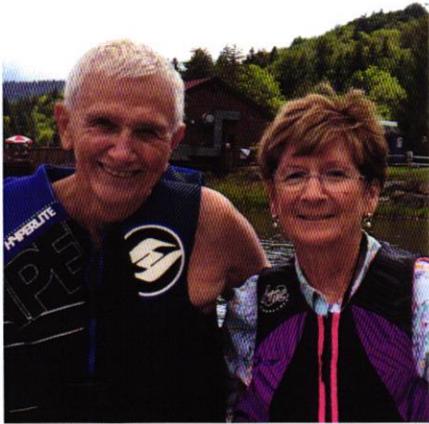
Finally, I am also very pleased that the awards will be presented at Meadow Mill Athletic Club. This is the home Club for all of the recipients. We, at Meadow Mill, our staff and our members, are very proud of each of them. It has been an absolute joy to watch squash explode in popularity, particularly among junior players, over these past and all-to fleeting twenty-six years.

Nancy Cushman
Maryland Squash President



Nancy Cushman and her daughter, Krista

Proprietor of Meadow Mill Athletic Club
www.meadowmill.com



Bob & Anna Everd

Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award

In 1993, Bob Everd was the first Maryland Squash board member and officer to be awarded the Maryland Squash Outstanding Achievement Award for his many hours, days, and years of volunteer service. He was the recipient of the award again in 2008. Finally, after more than three decades of continued service to Maryland Squash, in all facets of managing the game, the Board of Governors named this most significant volunteer award in Bob's honor: **The Maryland Squash Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award.**

Bob remains very much engaged in Maryland Squash – as a player and as a volunteer.

*The **Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award** acknowledges those who have been the most faithful stewards of the game.*

2019 Recipient Nancy Wolf

"I always wanted to be a teacher."

Nancy Wolf was born and raised in east Baltimore near old City Hospital that is now the sprawling Bay View medical complex. Her family's everyday life centered on Our Lady of

Fatima Catholic Church and school. Nancy has three siblings – her older brother, Bill and younger sisters Kathleen and Beverly. Nancy's dad, William, was a supervisor at the vast Bethlehem Steel Mill that was one of Maryland's largest and most consequential steel manufacturing industry was the life blood of east Baltimore neighborhoods.

"My mother, Doris," Nancy told me, "was a stay at home mom." Being the care taker of such a busy brood was often more demanding than working at Bethlehem Steel. "She made sure that a wholesome dinner was ready every night at 5:30 – no matter what". Nancy reminisced that everyone in the neighborhood knew everyone else. "We all looked out for each other. Church was tightly woven into the fabric of our community



and my family. Reflecting back," Nancy added, "we were a very close family that were always doing something together."

It's ironic," Nancy continued, "that I have spent most of my life working at Meadow Mill where everybody is focused on sports. At Meadow Mill, it's Squash and Pilates and Aerobics and Cycling and Weight Lifting. No matter what age, our members want to keep in good physical shape. Many come from other sports like lacrosse, football, soccer, swimming and tennis. It's a culture strongminded on keeping active no matter if you are ten years old or approaching ninety."

"In East Baltimore where I grew up", Nancy resumed, "there were



Nancy Wolf

no opportunities to play sports like lacrosse, squash or tennis. We all went to school at Our Lady of Fatima. For the first eight years, dodge ball, jump-rope and hopscotch, anything you could do on a parking lot, were our everyday activities. I walked to school with my brother. We returned home for lunch (my mother always had it prepared) then we walked back to school. When we arrived home in the afternoon, all of the kids in the neighborhood would ride their bikes or go roller-skating. By four o'clock or so, it was time for homework and to get cleaned up for dinner. It was a good and wholesome way to grow up but I never played on a sports team because no team sports were available."

Nancy told me that it was in those early formative years at Our Lady of Fatima that she began to dream about becoming a teacher. "If we didn't play formalized team sports", Nancy asserted,



Nancy and her niece, Aly

"there were a lot of other school and church activities from which to choose. Our teachers were always willing to introduce us to something new. I loved to sing in the choir and play the piano. And because of this nurturing environment, becoming a teacher seemed to be a wonderful calling. By the time I was in the 7th and 8th grades, I was playing the organ at church, during children's masses and Stations of the Cross celebrations. And I sang in our choral group at concerts, senior living communities and other public venues. Music was my substitute for secondary school sports."

Nancy moved to Harford County to attend high school. At Edgewood High School, Nancy continued her musical pursuits. Singing in the school chorus or church choir and playing the piano and organ became Nancy's full time high school activities.

In 1972, Nancy entered Harford Community College. There she continued her musical calling but also began to prepare to become a teacher. Two years later, Nancy was accepted to "Towson State College." In 1976, Nancy received her degree in Early Childhood Education and returned to Harford County to teach. Over the next decade, Nancy taught pre-school through fourth grade at William Paca Elementary School.

It was while at William Paca Elementary School that Nancy Wolf met the person who would become her best friend, Nancy Cushman. Although neither Nancy knew it at the time, it was a budding friendship that would

be a turning point in both of their lives. They found out that they only lived a few miles apart and began doing things together. One of those things involved the Racquet Club of Roland Park.

Nancy and Frank Cushman purchased the Racquet Club and began to manage what was now a fulfillment of their vision to own a squash facility. Nancy Cushman, especially, wanted to get juniors into squash. In those days, even though the Cushman's did their best to introduce the growing number of Racquet Club members to softball squash, hardball was the version of the game that dominated play in Maryland.

Running a squash club requires being present all of the time. Keeping track of clinics, court times, hosting tournaments and striving to build membership was an all-consuming job for Nancy and Frank. So, in addition to learning to play squash, Nancy Wolf began to help out. She set up tournaments and helped keep things running smoothly. It was a natural extension their friendship, apart from teaching and beyond playing squash that made both Nancys realize that they worked well together. Just over the horizon, the game of international squash was about to become the version of the game colleges and universities would embrace. Nancy Cushman sensed how the game of squash was about to change.

In 1993, When Nancy and Frank Cushman, partnering with Ken and Ann Katz and other supporters, opened Meadow Mill Athletic Club, Nancy Wolf left

teaching and joined Meadow Mill's management team. That was almost thirty years ago. Nancy told me that she really never stopped being a teacher. One of her first undertakings at Meadow Mill was to start a "Kids' Room" and develop programs for children. She became Meadow Mill's Activities Director. Over the years, her duties have expanded to facilitate all activities at Meadow Mill.

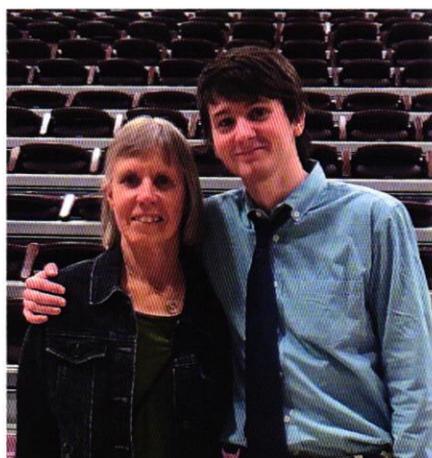
Meadow Mill Athletic Club has become a major center for Squash in the United States with

an emphasis on the international game. Because of Meadow Mill and its fourteen softball singles and two hardball doubles courts, United States National Championships returned to Baltimore. In addition to a myriad of physical fitness courses, Junior and high school squash programs became Nancy Cushman's primary emphasis. More than a thousand juniors play squash at Meadow Mill.

Because of this, Nancy Wolf has become a major contributor to managing Maryland Squash and

United States Squash events. Her involvement over the years has been indispensable; but because of her quiet behind the scenes nature, her influence has been largely unsung.

The Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award is Maryland Squash's way of thanking this ever giving teacher from East Baltimore and Harford County for her years of commitment to squash in Maryland



Nancy and grandson, Logan

Nancy Cushman Impact Award



Presented, from time to time, to those individuals who by virtue of their unselfish dedication to the game of squash racquets have had and will have a lasting impact on the game that transcends generations. Over the past forty years, Maryland Squash and U.S. Squash have endeavored to acknowledge Nancy Cushman's immense impact on the game of squash racquets in Maryland and nationally: 1981, U.S. Squash's Feron's Wedgwood Sportsmanship Trophy; 1995, U.S. Squash's Achievement Bowl; 1998, Maryland Squash Bob Everd Outstanding Achievement Award; 1999 Maryland Squash Hall of Fame; 2014 and 2015, Top 50 Most Intriguing, Interesting and Influential People in Squash by Squash Magazine; 2017, U.S. Squash's highest honor, the President's Cup; April 7, 2018 – On the occasion of Maryland Squash's 2018 Hall of Fame presentation ceremony, Nancy Cushman was presented the first Maryland Squash Impact Award – established because of her example and hereafter presented in her name.

2018

Nancy Cushman

2019

Abby Markoe

Peter Heffernan

2019 Recipient Abby Markoe



Abby Markoe

Abby Markoe would have made a great college history professor but in 2008, she changed her professional direction and made it her mission to develop a program based on Academics, Athletics and Opportunity that would greatly advance the lifetime prospects of Baltimore's public school students through the game of Squash. This very successful endeavor is called Baltimore SquashWise.

The mission of SquashWise is to be a long-term support system that creates opportunities for aspiring Baltimore youth. Using squash as a motivator, the SquashWise staff assist students to realize their academic, athletic and personal potential and ensure that each student graduates from high school and is prepared for their next step – ready to excel in college, continuing education, and the workplace. SquashWise is

centered on a goal-oriented approach to match students to post-high school education and career placements that fit their readiness and interests. Students join the SquashWise family in middle school where they continue to be supported as they strive to achieve educational, athletic, and career objectives.

Abby Markoe was born and raised in Princeton, New Jersey. Her father, Andrew, is a Professor of Mathematics at Rider University, a private university in Lawrence Township, New Jersey. Her mother, Ruth, is a speech pathologist. Abby and her two sisters, Ariana and Emily attended public school in Lawrenceville. From her earliest secondary school days, Abby acquired an interest in history and aimed to one day become a teacher. In high school, she played squash and soccer and joined the local squash leagues in and around Princeton. She found squash to be a sport that required discipline and dedication. It was also a lot of fun.

So, when Abby graduated from high school, in 1999 and was accepted to George Washington University, along with a demanding curriculum, she played intramural and club squash. In her senior year, Abby made the brand-new women's varsity squash team. In 2003, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in "The History and Philosophy of Medicine". The following year, Abby was accepted into a PhD Program at Johns Hopkins University.



Seeking a place to play squash, Abby joined Meadow Mill Athletic Club. It was at Hopkins that Abby began to recognize the hurdles that Baltimore City kids faced everyday as they sought a worthwhile secondary education. Wanting to help in some way, Abby remembered a Boston program that did just that – enriched the lives of city kids through extracurricular academics with learning to play squash as a motivator.

Boston's SquashBusters was founded in 1996 by squash professional Greg Zaff as a youth development organization that would provide middle and high school students with academic tutoring and squash instruction. By the time Abby entered Johns Hopkins, SquashBusters had made a name for itself by having positively impacting the lives of over 300 New England-based students and Zaff was the founding member of the National Urban Squash and Education Association with the goal to foster the establishment of similar programs in cities throughout the United States.

Abby began to believe, "Why not Baltimore"? Baltimore was a city that certainly had the need

and right there at 3600 Clipper Mill Road was the largest public squash facility in the United States – Meadow Mill Athletic Club. Abby got together and began to brainstorm with some local philanthropic Baltimoreans including Charlie Wise, Doug Hoffberger, Peter Heffernan, Owen Knott and Nancy Cushman; and with a \$100,000 challenge grant from Greg Zaff's National Urban Squash and Education Association, the SquashBusters concept was launched in Baltimore as "SquashWise". Abby would become and remains Executive Director. Abby abbreviated her PhD program at Hopkins and received a master's degree instead in order to oversee SquashWise on a fulltime basis.

In the beginning, it was just hard work. Abby was SquashWise's only full time person. She had an indispensable hand in every aspect of the program (academic teacher, administrator, squash coach). But since its founding, SquashWise has garnered enormously generous

support from Baltimore's squash community.

"SquashWise", Abby proudly said, "has grown from fourteen kids, just over a decade ago, to as many as eighty middle and high school students at any given time. And today we are blessed with a capable professional staff. Matt Skarzynski is our Program Director, Zach Bradley is Squash Director, Alexis Bond is Middle School Academic Director, Katie Rouse is Strategic Priorities Manager, Nicola Mohan is College & Career Success Coordinator, Joyce Kasper is High School Academic Coordinator and Colleen Knipp is Middle School Squash Coach; plus we have incredible volunteer assistance. It's a great team. Meadow Mill is our home base."

Abby lives in Baltimore's nearby historic Hampden community. She and her husband, Mark Gidlund, have two children. Their daughter Miriam is four years old and their son Alex has just reached six months. Mark is a Computer Technologist.

In addition to SquashWise, Abby helps organize the Howe Cup Matches, Lacy Cup Competitions (between Baltimore and Washington D.C. women), and Women's squash night at Meadow Mill. She also heads up SquashWise's Girls Excellence Initiative. And of course, Abby remains the face and driving force behind SquashWise.

"Now more than ever", Abby explains, "we understand the challenges and opportunities deep-rooted in a city like Baltimore. Squash is a sport that opens doors, not just for the SquashWise kids but for everyone who plays. It doesn't matter where you are from or who you are, squash provides access to other people, and through these valued relationships, life changing opportunities. This", Abby points out, "is a huge thing. It's what SquashWise is all about."



SquashWise

www.baltimoresquashwise.com



Remembering Jimmy Hense (1944-2019)

He was the state doubles champion in the Open and every age division. The same can be said for his record in singles. And over the years, he accumulated his share of national U.S. Squash tournament titles. In 2005, he was elected to the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame. Jimmy especially cherished those acknowledgements for his volunteer contributions to the game as a patron and mentor. In 1996, Jimmy received Maryland Squash's Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award; and in 2019, US Squash awarded him the W. Stewart Barns, Jr. Trophy in appreciation of his lifetime volunteer commitment to the game of Squash Racquets. Despite crippling sports injuries and Parkinson's disease that kept Jimmy off the court for more than a decade, he continued to be involved in every aspect of junior squash. He loved the game and the people who played. He left a mark worthy of remembrance.

2019 Recipient Peter Heffernan



Peter Heffernan

From his earliest days, living on a farm in Australia, it was apparent that this little boy was gifted with athletic ability. He would become one of Australia's best young tennis players. But in 1974, when he was among the top four young players in Melbourne, he chose, for no good reason, other than "that's what boys do", to climb over a ten foot fence. The lacings of one of Peter's tennis shoes snagged a top link and the aspiring national champion came crashing to the ground, smashing his elbow. It turned out to be an injury that would alter the course of his life.

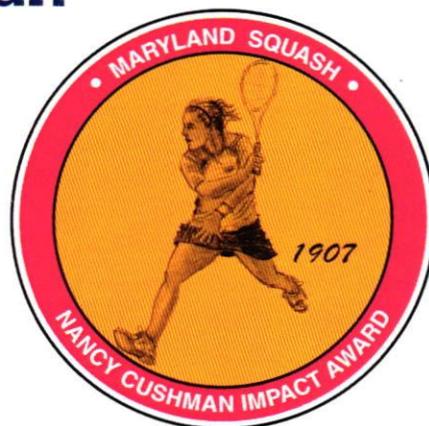
Peter Heffernan was born in Wangaratta, a rural town in the northeast corner of Victoria, Australia. He grew-up on a 200 acre family farm. Peter describes it as: "living in the middle of nowhere". It was primarily a dairy farm but Peter talked about raising other crops like tobacco

and wheat. He attended a small three room primary school in Wangaratta. "Sometimes", Peter recalled, "there were only three of us in my class and never more than fifty kids in the whole school."

When Peter was ten years old, because of his grandfather's health, the Heffernan family gave up the farm and moved to Wangaratta. His father, William, worked for the Victorian Railways Company. His mother, Margaret, secured a job at the local Rothman Cigarette Company.

Moving back to the city enabled Peter to go to Wangaratta High School where his athletic aptitude began to shine. "I played all of the sports at Wangaratta," Peter reminisced, "cricket, Australian football, basketball and of course - tennis". A friend of Peter's father named Mark Noland operated a sporting goods store in downtown Wangaratta. There were three squash courts in the building behind the store. Peter said that he learned to play Squash on Mr. Noland's courts.

"In addition my high school teams," Peter explained, "On Saturdays, I would practice tennis from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon – have lunch – then play squash from 1:00 to 3:00 pm; then it was back to tennis from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. I was also the point guard on our local men's basketball team. So after tennis, we would drive fifty miles to a night game. I wouldn't get back home until midnight."



When he was 14 years old, Peter qualified to play in the State Tennis Championships in Melbourne - 150 miles away. Because his dad worked for the railroad, Peter took the train, roundtrip, for free. "I lost in the semifinals", Peter recounted, "but because I was half the age of most other players, I made quite a stir among Melbourne's tennis community. For Aussies", Peter continued, "Melbourne was the hub of professional tennis. I was singled out as an up and coming national player."



Linsay Machak, Betsy Frazier, and Peter Heffernan working a U.S. Squash National Juniors Tournament.

To support Peter's tennis calling, the Heffernan family moved to Melbourne. "We lived in railroad housing," Peter explained, "So, it didn't matter where, along the line, we settled. Tennis became my everyday preoccupation." By 1973, Peter was counted among the best young tennis players in Australia.

Then there was that unanticipated debilitating fence climbing accident in 1974. It took the better part of a year to recover. Hoping to regain his championship form, Peter entered La Trobe University in Melbourne and played on La Trobe's tennis team. "But", Peter retrospectively added, "My game was never quite the same." He began to face the realization that professional tennis was a lost opportunity. It was time to do something different. Peter applied for and received a tennis scholarship at Middle Tennessee State University. After an emotional farewell to his family and friends, Peter packed his scant belongings and headed for America.

Peter played #1 for Middle Tennessee State. He had a winning record against powerhouses like Vanderbilt, University of Kentucky and Mississippi State. After college and graduate school at the University of Florida, Peter coached women's tennis at the University of Alabama. In 1984, Peter was recruited to teach tennis at Heights Casino in Brooklyn, New York. Not only a place to play competitive tennis, Heights Casino was and remains celebrated as one of the great squash centers in North

America. He fell in love with squash doubles and often teamed up with Will Carlin, a national champion who writes for Squash Magazine. Peter also became good friends with Greg Zaff who founded SquashBusters and is considered the father of Urban Squash in America.

Heights Casino is the place where Peter met his wife, Maureen Walsh. They were married at Brown University in 1990. Maureen was an educator with a managerial flair who aspired to become a "head of a school". In 2002, she was recruited to be Head of School at Baltimore's Bryn Mawr School, the first college preparatory school for girls in the United States. It wasn't long after Maureen and Peter moved to Baltimore that Nancy Cushman asked Peter to become Director of Squash at Meadow Mill Athletic Club. Peter and Maureen have two grown children, a son - Thomas, and a daughter - Grace.

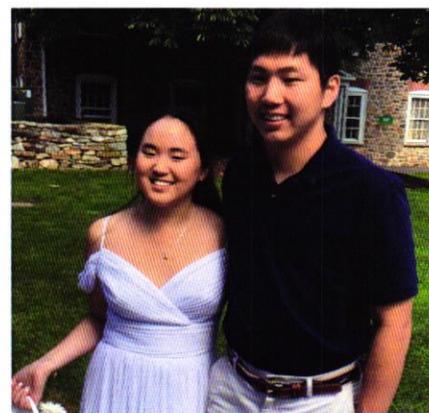
Over the past 18 years, Peter has been a prominent force for the advancement of Squash at Meadow Mill, in Maryland and nationally. He has had a major hand in making Meadow Mill, Maryland's hub for junior programs. Meadow Mill is the genesis for just about every regional high school junior-varsity and varsity team. More than 1000 juniors play Squash at Meadow Mill. And Peter has been the director for every U.S Squash Championship hosted at Meadow Mill.

Because of his affiliation with Greg Zaff and Squash Busters,

Peter, along with Nancy Cushman, founded "KIPP" (Knowledge Is Power Program), a national squash based initiative aimed to uplift urban kids through learning the game of Squash. Baltimore's KIPP School at Meadow Mill was the precursor for the now hugely successful Baltimore SquashWise.

Peter has been President of Maryland Squash, for five years. Maryland Squash, incorporated in 1907, is one of the four founding associations of United States Squash. Through Maryland Squash and its membership, Baltimore SquashWise, the many school programs and Meadow Mill, Peter has endeavored to keep Squash on the move, with ever increasing community, state and national support.

It's been forty-six years since Peter tumbled ten feet from the top of a fence before his tennis match at a club near Frankston, Australia that ended his chance to be a touring professional. But that harsh accident opened the door to another life in the United States and here in Baltimore where Squash is a better game because of Peter Heffernan.



Peter's children, Grace and Thomas

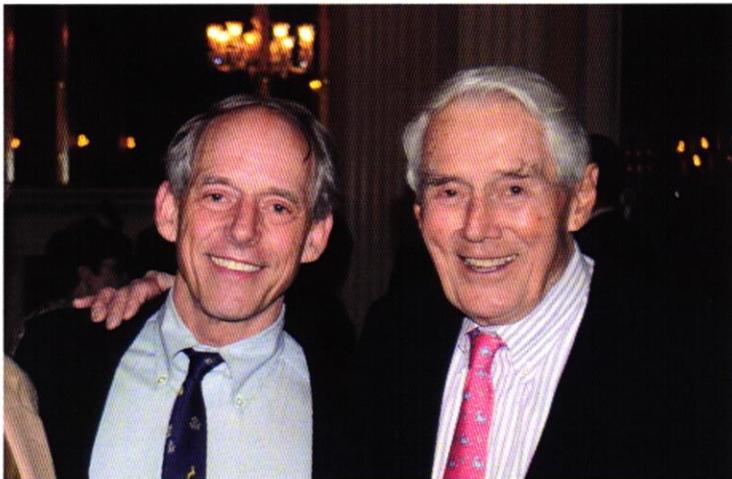
Maryland Squash Hall of Fame

The Maryland Squash Hall of Fame was conceived in 1997. Ambassador William H.G. FitzGerald, founder of the FitzGerald Cup Competition between Baltimore and Washington D.C., was the first Honorary Member. In 1998, at the Baltimore Invitational Dinner Dance, held in their honor, seven of Maryland's most notable champions were inducted. Since then, twenty-five Maryland champions plus four non-



Maryland honorees have been instated.

Over the past twenty-one years, nine Maryland Squash Hall of Famers have passed away. The Maryland Squash Hall of Fame is, in a small way, an ongoing reminder of their remarkable lives.



Bob Travers, a Founder and Chairman of Maryland Squash Hall of Fame Committee pictured with his father, Ollie, at Bobby's 2016 election into the Maryland State Squash Hall of Fame.

William H. G. FitzGerald †* — First Honorary Member

1998

Eugene F. X. O'Connor †
George L. Doetsch †
James J. Lacy, Jr. †
Joseph J. Lacy †
William Lambie †
Alexander B. Martin
Tommy Schweizer †

1999

Nancy Cushman

2001

G. Diehl Mateer, Jr. †*
Thomas M. Poor *
Michael J. Pierce *
Morris W. Clothier *

2003

Douglas C. Rice

2005

Raja Riaz Arshad
Jervis S. Finney †
Alva P. Weaver III
T. James Hense, Jr. †

2007

Patrick A.M. Miller

2008

Joseph B. Fitzpatrick, Jr.
Geoffrey Ewing Kennedy

2011

Dave Bennett
Andrew Cordova
Narelle Krizek

2014

Paul D. Assiante
Albert C. Hubbard, Jr.
Gilbert Brien Mateer
David Jonathan Rosen
Lissen Thompson Tutrone

2016

Stanley H. "Scooter" Dorney
Robert S. Travers
John Voneiff, II

2018

Patrice McConnell Cromwell
Douglas M. Hoffberger
David Talbott
Mark Drake Talbott
James W. Zug

2019

Denis L. Bourke
Elizabeth Ann Everts
Vaughan E. Schmidt

† Deceased

* Honorary Member

2019 Inductee Denis L. Bourke



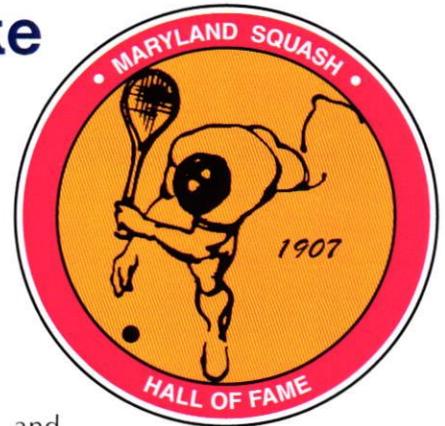
Denny Bourke

He was an able ice hockey player who by chance discovered squash while waiting to be accepted into Medical School and found himself captivated by a sport that would bring him a lifetime of enjoyment and lasting friendships.

Denis L. Bourke was born in 1942. He was brought-up in an industrious upper middle-class Detroit family. His father, Avery, a Vice President of the Great Lakes Steel Company, had been trained as a metallurgical engineer. His mother, Jeanne, was a homemaker. Denny and his brother Ricky attended a Detroit public school until the seventh grade. Denny entered Grosse Pointe University School, a private college preparatory school, when the Bourke family moved to the fashionable waterfront municipality of Grosse Point, Michigan that is located adjacent to Detroit in Wane County.

At Grosse Point University School, Denny played varsity football and baseball but never gave up on ice hockey. He played in a Detroit area ice hockey league that was sponsored by Detroit's Red Wings. From 4:30 to 6:00 pm, after the Red Wings' practice, Denny's team would hit the ice. Red Wings stars like Alex Delvecchio, Ted Lindsay, Marcel Pronovost, Sit Able and the great Gordie Howe would hang around and play with and help coach Denny's team. "I played Left Wing," Denny deferentially explained. "Howe played Right Wing; so, we were often paired against one another in those early evening practice sessions. We played against talented teams from Chicago, Toledo, Cleveland, and other hard hitting lineups from Detroit. Hockey," Denny, said lightheartedly, "was a great way to blow off steam. It was serious fun."

Denny was accepted to the University of Michigan. Despite the intense curriculum, he played hockey whenever possible but did not play other team sports. Denny majored in math. "I just loved mathematics", Denny explained. "I took all of the medical school requirements and finished at the top of my class but did not get accepted to medical school the first time I applied. Because I did things pretty much on my own, it never occurred to me to take the required MCAT - medical school admissions test. I went to Michigan for another year and earned my Bachelor of Science and Masters in Mathematics at the same time



and this time remembered to sign up for the MCAT. I was accepted to the University of Michigan's Medical School, in 1965."

During that extra college year, Denny, looking for a way to keep in shape, ran into an old high school buddy who exuberantly exclaimed, "Hey Denny - there's this game over at the athletic facility; let's go play it!" That game turned out to be Squash.

At a family Christmas dinner, Denny learned that his Uncle, Tom Bourke, played Squash at the Detroit Athletic Club and in earlier days had been a state and national champion. Denny began to play at the Detroit Athletic Club where he met Dave Talbot who worked there and would become one of America's great Squash Professionals. "I played with Dave every chance I got", Denny harked back; "and I began to seriously work on my game and to improve my conditioning." Like the math major he was, Denny practiced by himself for a full year before he played his first match. When Denny did begin to compete, he would tell his opponents: "I can play as long as you want. I made it a point", Denny said fervently, "to run down every ball."

While an Intern at Beaumont Hospital in Detroit, Denny joined the Detroit Racquet Club where he quickly became the Racquets Club's number one player. He also played regularly with and was coached by the celebrated Hashim Kham who was considered the world's greatest squash champion. It did not take long before Denny was one of Michigan's foremost amateur squashers. Oh yes, one more thing – While at Beaumont, Denny married his high school sweetheart, Connie Baum. In 2020, it will be fifty years.

Denny did his residency in Anesthesiology at the University of Pennsylvania's teaching hospital in Philadelphia. The University's Ringe Squash Courts were nearby and the team's coach, Al Maloy, invited Denny to play with the team. After his residency, Denny and Connie were off to Boston and Tufts University's medical center. Denny played competitive squash



Denny and Connie

at the Tennis and Racquet Club. The Tennis and Racquet Club team won the Boston City League every year. After seven years in Boston, Denny took a job at the Rice University Medical Center in Houston, Texas where he continued to play high level squash. He won the Texas State Championship two years in a row.

After four years in Texas, Denny and Connie wanted to move back east – Washington, DC, Boston and Philadelphia, where squash was a sports mainstay, were options. Denny decided that on his way east, he would play in the first U.S. Squash National Softball Championships. The Nationals were hosted at Towson University, Roland Park Racquet Club, Maryland Club and Baltimore Country Club. As there were no softball courts anywhere to be found, the tournament was played on hardball courts.

Denny and a friend who were lodging at Cross Keys decided to practice at Baltimore Country Club. While there, he met two ladies who offered them a ride back to Cross Keys. One lady, Toby Gordon, was an administrator at Johns Hopkins who introduced him to Dr. Mark Rogers, Chairman of Hopkin's Department of Anesthesiology. Denny did not take a position at Hopkins that year and went on to practice medicine in Boston. Four years later, however, Denny was recruited by Dr. Rogers to be Chairman of the Department at Bay View Hospital. Denny and Connie were back in Baltimore, this time for good. In 1992, he would become Chief of

Anesthesiology at the VA Hospital in Baltimore. Of course, Denny joined Meadow Mill Athletic Club as soon as it opened in 1993.

In Baltimore, the question becomes - "what hasn't Denny won. He has been a 13 time Meadow Mill Singles Champion and he has won ten Maryland Squash singles championships. He was a Fitzgerald Cup stalwart (the best players from Baltimore and Washington, DC) for ten years and an undefeated Locket Cup U.S. Team member seven times. US Squash selected him as a member of the United States Team for the World Amateur Championships. He has won more than thirty national titles at prestigious venues like the William-White, Boston Open and U.S. National Men's Singles Championships. For twenty years, Denis Bourke was the dominant Maryland State player in each corresponding age division.

Denny retrospectively told me that Squash has been an unanticipated joy. "Everyone I have met," Denny declared, "has been a truly good person. As Connie and I moved around the country, squash never failed to award us with a built-in community of friends." Denny unassumingly added: "Lasting friendships are the most meaningful gifts that have come to us because I picked up a squash racquet one day in Detroit more than fifty years ago."

2019 Inductee Elizabeth Ann Everts



2019 U.S. Squash National Champion
Elizabeth Ann Everts

"Squash," Lizz declared, "has been my catharsis. Meadow Mill," she continued, "means everything to me. I probably spend one-third of my life at Meadow Mill chatting with my friends and playing squash. There is no better way to rejuvenate one's self. At least for me, it's the perfect spot to play the perfect sport."

Like half of Baltimore, Lizz was born at the old Woman's Hospital in downtown Baltimore in 1959. Her family lived on Taplow Road in the north Baltimore neighborhood of Homeland. Her mother was a stay at home mom. Her father was a general surgeon. "Everything my father did," Lizz proudly disclosed, "he did well. He earned his law degree, was

Maryland State Medical Examiner and could make a violin resonate with professional proficiency. I strove to be as creative and accomplished as my dad. He was certainly a role model for me, my sister Mary Elizabeth and my two brothers James and Michael. In everything we undertook growing up, he was supportive and caring."

Lizz went to Friends School that was only a few blocks from her house. She started in tennis and basketball and loved Lacrosse. In 1977, she had been on the tennis varsity and was the varsity basketball team's point guard all four high school years.

Lizz graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She majored in classical studies. Lizz was also on Johns Hopkins women's varsity tennis team where she was inadvertently introduced to the game of hardball singles squash. Hopkins had five singles courts in the Homewood Athletic Center. The tennis coach insisted that everyone on the team learn to play squash to improve their agility and conditioning. It is the same reason the great tennis champion, Don Budge, urged his Davis Cup tennis team members to improve their skills by playing squash.

Finding it a lot more challenging and ever more fun than tennis, Lizz quickly took to squash. "I just fell in love with squash", Lizz confessed. "I was on the Johns Hopkins women's squash team all four years. I knew that



for me, it would be a lifetime commitment. I didn't just want to play squash, I wanted to excel. I wanted to compete."

"Hopkins of course," Lizz continued, "was not one of the Ivy Leagues where squash was ingrained in the sports curriculum but our Hopkins team got better every year. We competed in the intercollegiate Howe Cup and the Women's Collegiate Team Nationals. In 1979, our team was eighth in the nation. We were pretty proud of that accomplishment". Between 1977 and 1981 Lizz won four Howe Cups, three intercollegiate singles championships, received the Hopkins women's team "Most Valuable Player Award" and was Team Captain.

After college, Lizz joined the Racquet Club of Roland Park. "I played singles with some of Baltimore's best women including Joan Wyers, Helen Lacy, Patty Minkowski and Margaret Riehl. And for the first time, there was doubles. I just knew, Lizz added, "that doubles squash was a game for me. I was hooked – Big Time!"



Lizz and her grandson, James

“It was at the Racquet Club, Lizz resumed, “that I met Nancy Cushman. Nancy and Frank Cushman purchased the Racquet Club and began to operate the Roland Park Racquet Club as a professional business and learning center. It became a crucible for young players. I think”, Lizz reflected, “beyond any other person, Nancy Cushman changed my life when it came to squash as a sport I would play for as long as I was able. When Nancy and Frank and Ken and Ann Katz opened Meadow Mil Athletic Club in 1993, I may have been the first one through the door.”

For twenty years, Lizz has been ranked in the top 100 women players in the United States. Lizz has often been nationally ranked in the top ten in her age division. She made the Can-Am Team (United States vs. Canada) in 2008 and 2012. On four occasions, Liz has been a Howe Cup winning team member. She has played well in the World Doubles, William White and other national tournaments. Lizz

is a Maryland State Champion in singles and doubles. And she has been a Meadow Mill champion on five occasions and has always, in Club or State Championships, finished at the very top of the draw as a winner or finalist. Lizz recently became the United States National Champion in the Women’s 4.0 Division.

Lizz has additionally served Maryland Squash as Corresponding Secretary and has been both the Johns Hopkins woman’s coach and the Garrison Forest Middle School coach. She has unpretentiously earned her place as one of Maryland Squash’s exceptional women competitors in singles and doubles squash.

Lizz married her high school sweetheart Mark who went to Loyola Blakefield. Mark, a professional chief, founded and ran a catering business until his recent retirement. Lizz and Mark have three grown children – Jon, the eldest, Jennifer and George who is the Everts’ youngest, now living in Denver.

Thirty-three years ago Lizz met Dr. Duncan Salmon at

Meadow Mill. Dr. Salmon was a cardiologist who practice at Good Samaritan Hospital. Through squash, Duncan and Liz became friends. Dr. Salmon, recognizing Lizz’s compassionate and nurturing nature, encouraged her to change careers and come work at Good Samaritan as an Echocardiograph Technologist in Cardiac Ultrasound. Lizz took Dr. Salmon up on his proposal, became certified and has been an echocardiograph technologist ever since. Not unlike squash, Lizz told me her professional work has turned out to be the “perfect match.”

That’s not the end of Lizz’s family story. There is four year old James, Jon Everts’ young son – Lizz’s and Mark’s grandson. “He is simply wonderful”, Liz proclaimed with a pride reserved exclusively for grandmothers. “How early”, she asked, “do you think I should begin to teach little James how to play squash”? I replied, I started my grandson, Jack, when he was four. Jack, now eleven, plays regularly with Lizz. “Well”, Lizz responded, “I better get started. That would be perfect too.”

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2019 Inductee Vaughan E. Schmidt



Vaughan E. Schmidt

When I interviewed Vaughan for this article, I asked her that after competing in squash for about thirty years, to tell me about her most memorable victory. "That's easy", she responded. "Maybe because I'm getting older - but winning at the William White last year, at Marion Cricket Club in Philadelphia, with my partner, Pam Platt, is the win that I am the most proud of and will always remember."

Leo Pierce who himself remains a talented player, patron of the game and many time chairman of Marion's renowned William White McRory-Tully Invitational said: "Well John that might be Vaughan's greatest memory but I was there and my most valued recollection is when Vaughan handed me a package of her out of this world chocolate chip cookies". Then jestingly chiding me for waking him up with a phone call when he was trying to get some shuteye while traveling through Italy, Leo continued: "It was a great match to watch, even if she did beat my sister Molly. Vaughn and Pam earned it. More importantly", Leo continued, "is what Vaughan has contributed

over the years as a gifted player and ever-present supporter of the game. Her considerable playing skills aside, if Vaughan is there, it's a lot more fun. When you see Vaughan, convey my sincere congratulations for being elected to the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame. She earned that too. And please tell her, I'm looking forward to the next batch of chocolate chips."

Vaughan was born in Baltimore and raised on a farm in Owings Mills with her three brothers Ham, Andrew and Teddy. Vaughan confessed that she was forever her 'father's little girl'. Vaughan paused and reflected: "I certainly loved my Dad. He passed away in 1997. I still miss him every day. My father", Vaughan continued, "was a devoted family man, always a gentleman and a good sport. Dad loved tennis and we were certainly a tennis family. We played everywhere we went and every chance we got." More than anything else, Vaughan attributes her love for racquet sports to the kindhearted encouragement of her father. "He was my biggest booster", Vaughan recalled, "- especially when it came to tennis."

Along with field hockey and softball Vaughan played tennis at Calvert School. At Garrison Forest School, in Owings Mills, Maryland, she was a top varsity competitor - playing all for years and reaching the #1 position on Garrison Forest's tennis team.

A stand out student, Vaughan was accepted to Duke University



where she also played tennis. Vaughan graduated from Duke in 1979, returned to Baltimore and went to work for Investment Councilors of Maryland, located in historic Mt. Vernon.

While working at ICM, a close friend and Garrison Forest schoolmate, Susan Obrecht Riehl, introduced Vaughan to the game of squash. John Riehl, Sr. and his brother in law, Bobby Vogel, converted the old Girls Latin School gymnasium, on Long Lane in Roland Park, into a squash facility with two hardball singles courts and one doubles court. The Roland Park Racquet Club became a hub for squash in Baltimore. Vaughan remembers loving the game from the very beginning. She played with top players like Margaret Riehl, Alice Margroff, Helen Lacy, Steve Brody and her friend Susan Obrecht. Because of her tennis background, Vaughan quickly became a competitive player.

At the invitation of Paul Assaiante (who became the most winning college coach in history at Trinity College in New Haven, Connecticut but was then Baltimore Country Club's

Racquets Director) Vaughan accepted the position of assistant (part-time) squash professional at Baltimore Country Club. But it was at the Roland Park Racquets Club that Vaughan met and became friends with Nancy Cushman who in 1993, would become a founder of Meadow Mill Athletic Club, the largest public squash facility in the United States.

Meadow Mill Athletic Club was, in addition to North American Doubles, focused on promoting the International softball version of singles squash. Vaughan played both but concentrated on becoming a left wall doubles specialist. Through steadfast preparation, coaching, stellar play and a few knee surgeries, Vaughan developed into and remains an extraordinary able state and national champion.

Beginning in the early 1990's Vaughan was highly ranked

in Maryland and nationally in both singles and doubles squash. She has been a multiple State Doubles Champion and has competed at the very top level of national play including the Baltimore Invitational Doubles Championships, Philadelphia's William White McRory-Tully Invitational, United States National Doubles Championships, Canadian Nationals and America's prestigious Howe Cup.

Beyond this, Vaughan has been an unwavering volunteer in promoting Maryland Squash. She has been a committee member for two United States National Doubles Championships and the Baltimore Invitational Championships going back to the 1990's. Vaughan started and coached the middle school programs at both Gilman and Bryn Mawr Schools. In 2005, because of her influential volunteer service to the game of squash (not to mention thousands chocolate chip cookies baked for every occasion), Vaughan was awarded Maryland Squash's Robert Everd Outstanding Achievement Award.

Since 2006, Vaughan has worked at D.F. Dent as a Trader and Executive Assistant. Vaughan

met Dan Dent through squash. "I just love my job," Vaughan said, "Everyone there is terrific." Vaughan still plays doubles squash before heading off to D. F. Dent, at Meadow Mill, with her ten "Early Morning Squash Pals."

Vaughan wanted me to know that above all else, her greatest achievement in life has been her son Henry, "the love of her life", who was a standout Maryland State junior on Gilman's varsity team and in Maryland State tournament events. "I am thrilled", Vaughan enthusiastically added that "Henry is coming back home. He is being transferred back to Baltimore by PricewaterhouseCoopers. Hopefully, he will get back into squash. We might enter a mixed doubles tournament together? Wouldn't that be great!"

A few weeks ago, Maryland Squash held its beginning of the season Board Meeting in Meadow Mill's conference room. Everyone was gathered around the table when Vaughan popped in. "Sorry", she apologized; "the traffic was terrible." Then as she found an open chair, Vaughan tossed a plastic bag chock-full of Chocolate Chip cookies onto the table. They didn't last long.



Vaughan and Henry

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The Meadow Mill Monday/Wednesday 6:00 a.m. Squash group congratulates Vaughan Schmidt on her induction into the Maryland Squash Hall of Fame and would like to express our deep gratitude and appreciation to Vaughan for her uncompromising dedication to the game of squash, her incredible skill and her baking prowess.

Edward, Jeff D., Jeff S., Jimmy, Mark, Patrice, Peter C., Peter G., Tom R., Tom W., and Wells

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Sandy

Alexander B. "Sandy" Martin is the last living member of the seven champions elected to the 1st Class of Maryland Squash's Hall of Fame. The date was May 1, 1998. The ceremony took place during the formal

Saturday night dinner gala, held in their honor, at Baltimore Country Club during the 30th playing of the Baltimore Invitational Squash Doubles and Singles Championships. Hundreds came to honor these gifted athletes. Sandy Martin was the youngest inductee. For a quarter century, beginning in the 1970's, A.B. Martin ruled hardball singles and doubles squash in Maryland. His state, regional and national record remains unsurpassed.

Following is a tip from Sandy that rings true today.

HOLD YOUR SHOT

"One way I was able to get an edge over my opponents, in singles or doubles", Sandy said, "was to hold my racquet and therefore my shot until the last possible split-second. It gave my opponents less time to react, increased my options and allowed me more favorable court position. Truth is, you don't need to hit a great shot if you place the ball where your opponents have vacated the court. Your delayed counter stroke helps create this advantage - especially in the front of the court."

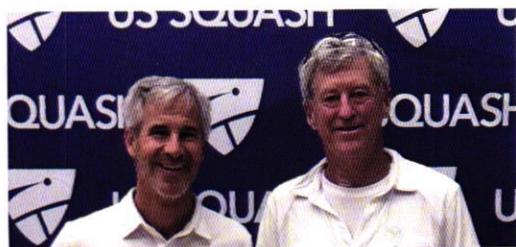
"In doubles", Sandy continued, "If you and your partner play and practice together, with the exception of a volley, which can provide the same edge, work on holding your shots. The extra split-second gained, with either a volley or a hold, is often the difference between winning and losing a point. And remember that in the doubles game, you as a team, are only as good as each of you playing alongside one another as one. Control the tee and don't fight each other for the ball. Instead, know when to back each other up. Holding your counter stroke is a measure of recognizing when to let your partner take the ball."



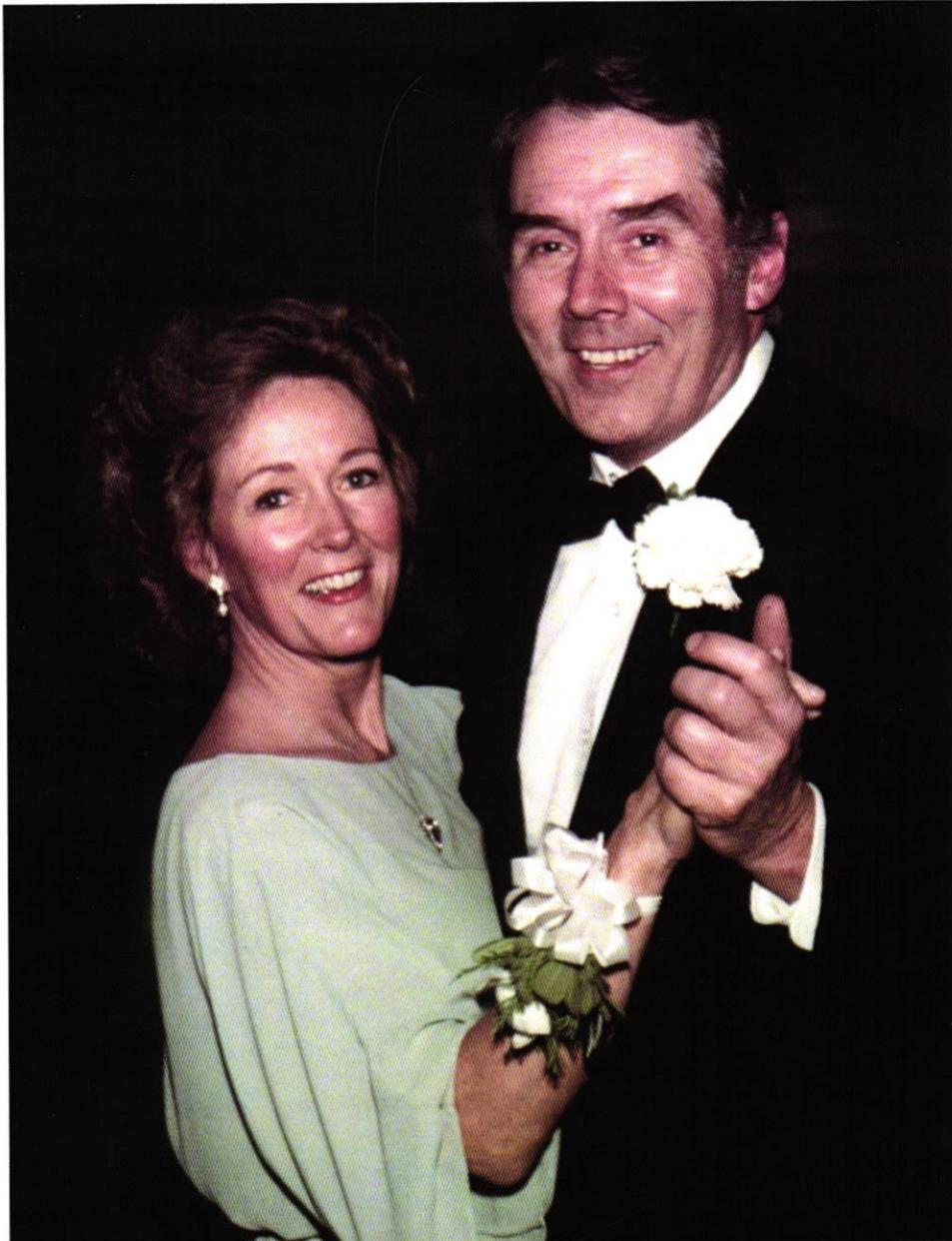
Many time Maryland State and National Champion, Sandy Martin



Maryland State Squash Hall of Famer Lisson Tutrone and her partner Kathryn C. "Kat" Grant won both the 2019 United States National Women's 40's Division Championship and the Century Doubles Championship.



Maryland Squash Hall of Fame member - Patrick Miller and his partner, Peter Boswick, won the 2019 U.S. Squash National Doubles Championship, in the Men's 60's Division. Congratulations - Pat and Peter!



In Memory of MJ and Ollie Travers

For four decades, Mary Jean and Oliver Travers were two of Maryland Squash's most devoted patrons.

The Mary Jean and Oliver Travers, Jr. Foundation was established by MJ and Ollie to benefit those in need and charitable causes during their lifetime and beyond.



Mary Jean Travers (1932 - 2017)
Oliver S. Travers Jr. (1926 - 2019)



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