



## Gary Edward Ellis

August 10, 1941 - November 2, 2025

Gary Edward Ellis

November 2, 2025 | Age 84

Gary Edward Ellis, a distinguished Life Member Century PGA Master Golf Professional and beloved figure in the golf community, passed away on November 2, 2025, at the age of 84.

Born in Rome, New York, Gary built an extraordinary career in golf that spanned decades and touched countless lives. His faith was central to his life. Gary loved the Lord and actively served in his church's hospital ministry, bringing comfort and compassion to those in need. He lived his values every day, showing kindness, patience, and grace to all who knew him.

His professional achievements were remarkable: 2005 he was inducted into the PGA of America Hall of Fame as PGA Golf Professional of the Year (1979). He had the privilege of coaching the Junior Ryder Cup Team as they competed in Venezuela and has received several other Awards from the PGA. In the 70's and 80s, he served as Head Golf Professional at The Field Club in Pittsburgh before moving to Hilton Head Island, where he had the privilege of working at several courses but ended up as the Director of Instruction at Harbor Town Golf Links. This is where Gary met Gary Player and decided to move to Orlando to help design, construct and run Alaqua Country Club. But

Gary was so much more than his impressive resume. He was the consummate golf professional in every sense—not just in skill, but in spirit. He never seemed to be in a bad mood and always had a smile on his face, greeting everyone with warmth and genuine joy. Quick with a joke and passionate about every aspect of the game, Gary was a true lover of golf who shared that enthusiasm with everyone he met.

Gary is survived by his children Patricia, John, Missie, and Brent, along with their families, who will carry forward his legacy of love, laughter, and dedication. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Linda and parents, Donald and Dorothy Ellis.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at 10:00 AM at DeGusipe Funeral Home in Maitland, Florida.

Gary's life was a testament to excellence, joy, and service. He will be deeply missed by his family, his church community, and the countless golfers whose lives he enriched.

Celebration of Life attire: Come play one more round of golf with Pro.... Dress like you are going to play golf with Gary!

In lieu of flowers, we know our father would rather have donations be to one of the two following Junior Golf Programs in his honor:

1. Fellowship Christian Athletes

<https://my.fca.org/?form=addisonsterling&keyword=Addison%20Sterling>

2. Tim Beckwith Foundation

<https://collectcheckout.com/r/piz6ockp5llxoec92ajgdg1d1zp1vn>



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

NOV 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory  
9001 N. Orlando Avenue  
Maitland, FL 32751  
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

## Memorial Gathering with Reception

NOV 15. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory  
9001 N. Orlando Avenue  
Maitland, FL 32751  
<https://www.facebook.com/DeGusipeFH/>

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ I am just learning about Gary’s passing. Gary taught me how to play golf at Ithaca Country Club in the 1970’s as a teenager. His love of the game was instrumental for me in life both personally and professionally. It was great to reconnect with him during his Hilton Head years as well. My thoughts and prayers are with the Ellis family.

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**John Clifford** - April 09 at 04:10 PM

MB

“ Dear Ellis Family,

*On behalf of the North Florida PGA and our 1,700 Professionals, we are deeply sorry for your family’s loss. We are sincerely grateful to Gary for his service to the game of golf and for the countless PGA Professionals he supported throughout his career.*

*Gary’s love and passion for the game left a lasting impact. Please accept our heartfelt condolences during this difficult time.*

*With sympathy,*

*Matt Borocz, PGA  
President, North Florida PGA*

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**Matt Borocz** - November 15, 2025 at 07:36 PM

RP

“ Gary was always the "BEST PART" of our membership experience at Alaqua! He was more than just a golf pro to the members, he elevated himself becoming a well respected Dear Friend!

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**Randy Parks** - November 14, 2025 at 04:35 PM

BI

“ God Bless Gary and all family members. Gary was a 50 year professional friend. We conducted the Master Professional golf event together for many years. I always appreciated him as a Pro but mostly as a wonderful person/man. I will miss him greatly. Love to all, Bob Intrieri Master pro #31

Bob Intrieri - November 13, 2025 at 10:30 AM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Gary Edward Ellis.



November 13, 2025 at 09:01 AM

VG

“ Vincent G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Edward Ellis.

Vincent G. - November 10, 2025 at 02:06 PM

ST

“ Stephon's Team purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Gary Edward Ellis.



Stephon's Team - November 10, 2025 at 11:50 AM

TF

“ The Parks Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Edward Ellis.

The Parks Family - November 07, 2025 at 11:32 AM

TF

“ The Parks Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gary Edward Ellis.



The Parks Family - November 07, 2025 at 11:32 AM

TF

“ The Cozzocrea Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Edward Ellis.

The Cozzocrea Family - November 07, 2025 at 07:56 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gary Edward Ellis.



November 07, 2025 at 07:56 AM

RW

“ As a member of the Junior Ryder Cup Team in 1979, I was privileged to have Gary serve as our Captain. Being from Mississippi, traveling to Venezuela was a bit out of my comfort zone. Gary met me at La Guardia airport and immediately made me feel like family. He took all of us under his wing and made us feel like family. I will always be grateful to him and remember him fondly. As a side note, we kicked butt and won the Cup with the fighting spirit he Captained with. All the best to his family and please accept my sincere condolences. Randy Watkins  
Madison, Ms

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**Randy Watkins** - November 04, 2025 at 07:41 PM

BE

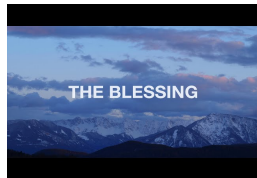
*Thank you so much for sharing.*

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**BRENT ELLIS** - November 07, 2025 at 07:24 PM

TF

“ Our deepest condolences to you and the rest of the Ellis family Brent. Mr. Gary Ellis was definitely a very very special man, full of life and always something interesting, informative, or just plain funny to say. He always made us laugh every time he came to do his oil changes or auto repair. He was one of the few who was allowed to wait for his car service to be done in the office. I, Joanna, loved chatting it up with him every time he came in. May the Lord keep him in his Glory and re-unite him with loved ones past. And give your family the strength to get through this difficult moment. Jimmie said he will give you a call later on this week if not today. Blessings to you all and our hearts are with you. - The Perez & Everything Automotive Repairs Family.

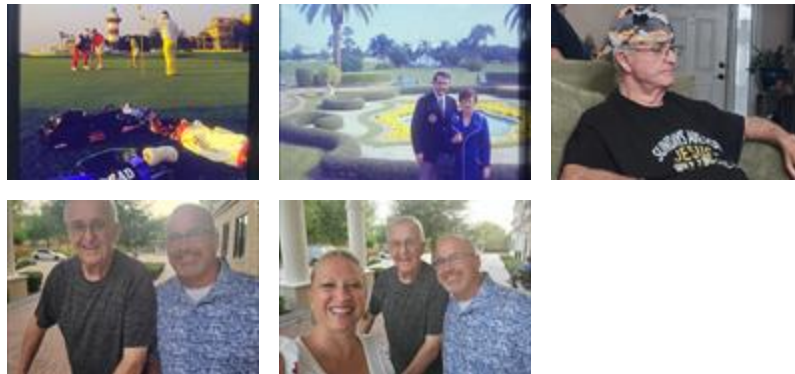


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**The Perez Family** - November 04, 2025 at 06:01 PM

BE

“ 33 files added to the tribute wall



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**Brent Ellis** - November 04, 2025 at 05:40 PM

BE

“ 10 files added to the album Gary Photos



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**Brent Ellis** - November 04, 2025 at 04:54 PM