

**The United States Blind Golf Association
is proud to recognize and induct
Bob Andrews
into its 2009 class of the Hall of Fame.**



Bob was born in 1944 and grew up overseas in Venezuela, South America. On returning to the United States in the 1960s, he attended Southern Methodist University and later graduated from Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta, Georgia. Bob then volunteered to join the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam. While scouting ahead for an operation, he sustained major injuries from a booby trap, which included the loss of his sight.

At the Hines VA Rehabilitation Center Bob was introduced to the game of blind golf. During the following two years he learned and perfected his golf game with help from his first coach John Andrews, his dad. The United States Blind Golf Association became an important part of his life when he qualified to join in 1970.

Competing in the national blind golf tournament and other events were just part of Bob's life for the next two decades. He and his wife, Tina, now married 42 years, raised three sons. During this time Bob also became a licensed residential contractor and built homes in his hometown Tallahassee, Florida.

When more opportunities availed in the late 1980s and early 1990s, both in the USA and overseas, Bob decided to become more involved in the USBGA. He served on the Board, was Vice President, and went on to be President for ten years. He is proud that during his tenure many projects and advancements were implemented to the organization and blind golf.

With Tina at his side, they produced the first newsletter “The Midnight Golfer”, created the web site “blindgolf.com”, and started regional tournaments with standardized regulations. Bob worked with the USGA to help write and create the initial “A Modification of the Rules of Golf for Golfers with Disabilities”. Bob’s travels overseas afforded him the opportunity to be one of the founders of the International Blind Golf Association in 1998. This led to the establishment of the first World Championships involving six countries, which he organized and held in Florida. For the past twelve years Bob has served on the IBGA Board, four of those years as the Vice President. During this period, his efforts helped the organization grow to its current sixteen member countries. In addition, a junior blind golf program was initiated during his tenure. The successful development of this program is attributed to the dedication of Bob’s long time coach and friend, Joe McCourt. Other contributions during his USBGA Presidency were the co-authoring of a blind golf instructional manual and the production of two DVDs. One was on learning how to play blind golf and the other about the USBGA association.

Over the years Bob has had many great experiences and finishes competing in tournaments. He has numerous second and third place trophies from the Guiding Eyes Classic and the National Championship. He also won regional tournaments in Alabama, Arizona and Florida. He was a 3-time member of the USBGA team competing in the match play Stewart Cup with England, during the early 1990s. Bob has been a consistent top finisher in international events, including first place titles in the Japanese, Canadian, and British Blind Opens. His ultimate goal was to win a National Championship. That became a reality in 2009. With his long time Coach Joe guiding him around the course they won the national title in San Antonio, Texas. The tournament was played at the Brackenridge Park Golf Club, site of the 1948 National Championship. Because of his dedication both on and off the course, the International Network of Golf honored Bob with the 1997 “Dennis Walters Courage Award”.