



JOHN SAUNDERS

May 31, 1933 – April 19, 2017



John Saunders (aka Joe D) was married to Dorothea and they made their home in Rockville, Maryland. He graduated from Howard University in 1959 and Howard University College of Dentistry in 1961. Joe D was also a part-time Professor at Georgetown University School of Dentistry. John became a member of the Washington D.C. Pro Duffer Golf Club in 1972 and he remained a member of the Club for nearly 45 years.

In 1988, Joe D, Milton Bernard and Sewell Horad among others, established the Pro Duffers Golf Club as a national organization. Today, the National Pro Duffers Golf Club has expanded to 15 chapters. John Saunders was responsible for much of the growth of the National Organization and he was a leader on and off the golf course. He served as the Tournament Director of the National Organization and he demonstrated his golfing gifts by winning the championship at many of the annual national golf outings. Joe D won the National Championship on so many occasions that the National Championship Trophy was named the Joe D Saunders Award.

Through his nearly 45 years as a member of the Washington D.C. Pro Duffers Golf Club, Joe D served as the Tournament Director and its Membership Chairman. However, his greatest contribution was as the mentor to so many young members of the Club. The Washington Pro Duffers honored Joe D by naming its championship flight after him. Joe D was one of the founders of the National Minority Intercollegiate Golf Tournament which is now sponsored by the Professional Golfers Association (PGA).

John Saunders' other huge athletic love was baseball. He was an excellent baseball player as well as an avid fan. He was a member of the Indian Spring Country Club, as well as the Argyle Country Club. Prior to Indian Spring, he was a fixture at Langston Golf Club where he was a legend.

John Saunders is survived by his wife Dorothea, his son Charles and daughters Vickie, Terri, and Kim.