**A Tribute and A Thank You**

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 It has been said, “To find a man’s true character, play golf with him.” This quote seemed an appropriate introduction as I considered the best way to pay tribute and say “Thank you” to Ed Dorn and Mick Carrera for their time and effort to provide our Sir Branch 169 with a weekly and monthly golfing activity, which they have been doing for many years. In the SIR Mission Statement, we find the following: “SIR exists to enrich the lives of its members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making friends for life.” The purpose of the SIR Organization is: “To provide for the welfare of retired men... who are pursuing a common goal…the enjoyment of their later years with dignity and pride and they do this through activities and association with other retired men.” ` One of the ways our SIR Branch 169 members seek a common goal is through participation in our monthly golfing activities. An article in a recent golf publication provided the following as a reasonable expectation for a SIR golfer: “Be courteous to one another. Treat one another with respect, and please be considerate of the condition of the golf courses, the customs and rules of the game, and your fellow golfers, including the often-impatient non-SIR’s golfers who get stuck playing behind us. Please be sure to repair all marks on the greens, especially when you are within sight of the pro shop!” In summary let me share from an article provided in “A Golf Story…” where the author tells us… “…I met a whole lot of different people out on the course. That was one of the best things about the game. But aside from my regular partners and a few others, I don’t feel like I got to know many of these people very well. I know they didn’t really get to know me and probably didn’t want to. I was always so occupied with my own game and didn’t have much time for anyone else, especially if I wasn’t playing well. Golf is a wonderful game. It should be played with enthusiasm and appreciation for the true values the game provides. Allow me to encourage you to realize how lucky you are to be able to play a game well into your “Golden Years” and…”don’t waste a minute…for all too soon it will no longer be possible…and all too soon it will be gone.” Scott Barcus - Big Sir, 2021