

ARLINGTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE - MAY 28, 2003



Donna Floyd Fales, born in Atlanta, Georgia, moved to Arlington along with her parents in the 1950's. She's a Wakefield High School grad (1958) and a College of William & Mary grad (1962). She's also a life-time tennis great.

Donna won her first national title in 1955 as a 15-year old, the U.S. Girls' 15 Singles Championship. She was the Girls' 18 Indoor Doubles Champion in 1956. In 1959, Donna was the U.S. Intercollegiate Singles Champion. She was ranked in the USTA Top 10 from 1960-63, 1965-66; and No. 1 in the East 1966. She has won numerous state, regional, national and international singles and doubles championships, including the Canadian Singles and Doubles (1960), the U.S. Clay Courts Singles (1962), and the U.S. Open Mixed Doubles (1966). Donna was a 6-time Wightman Cup and Federation Cup team member and served as team captain five times.

Donna and her husband Gordon Fales are long-time Florida residents, where she has served as director of the Greater Miami Foundation. She has served as the tournament director for the ITF Sunshine Cup Connelly Continental Cup from 1991 to the present time. Donna was a 1996 member and captain of the Bueno Cup Team (Women's 50 competition).

Donna has been honored many times as a player for her on-the-court tennis achievements, as well as for her accomplishments as a tournament director and administrator in the greater Miami area, her service to the USTA Junior Tennis League program, and the USTA Women's Senior Players program.

Donna was the recipient of the USTA Service Bowl Award (1967); the Sarah Palfrey Danzig Award (1989); the USTA Community Service Award (1989); the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Award, and the International Tennis Hall of Fame Educational Merit Award (1996). She was inducted into the Florida Tennis Association Hall of Fame (1987), and is a member of the Dade County Hall of Fame, the William & Mary Athletic Hall of Fame, the National Capital Area Tennis Hall of Fame, the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame (1997), and the ITA Women's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame (1997).

As a teenager and Wakefield H.S. senior, Donna was honored as Arlington's Outstanding Tennis Player at the Better Sports Club's First Annual Awards banquet held at the Terrace Room of Arlington Towers on November 14, 1957.