

Don Jacobus, Lifetime Achievement



Don Jacobus, 2011 Service to Tennis, Lifetime Achievement

Don Jacobus began his lifetime love of tennis as a child when he hit his first tennis ball, during his first lesson as a new member of the Berkeley Tennis Club.

Don was a ranked junior and played tennis for the University of Pacific. He was inducted into the Pacific Tiger Hall of Fame in 2001 as a member of one of the best ever teams, the 1950 tennis team, ranked 3rd in the country.

After returning from the service, Don volunteered at the Pacific Coast Tournament, eventually becoming the tournament director for many years. He got to know all of the players, Arthur Ashe, Billy Jean King, and Rosie Casals. Don won California State Doubles Championship twice with the late Jim McManus, beating Cliff Mayne, Hugh Ditzler, and Whitney Reed.

Twice president of the Berkeley Tennis Club and twice president of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors, Don rarely if ever missed a board meeting in 40 years. Described as a diplomat, Don preferred to work with fellow board members one-on-one, by gaining consensus.

For 20 years, Don served on national committees including the Executive Committee, Finance Committee, and the Committee of Management. He recalls his fondest memories of USTA, working and associating with the volunteers who had a common interest in bettering and promoting the game of tennis. He was Inducted into USTA NorCal Hall of Fame in 1998. Don was recognized at the 2012 ACES, *Awards Celebrating Excellence in Service*, for his Lifetime Achievements in tennis by Michael Cook, President of the Board.