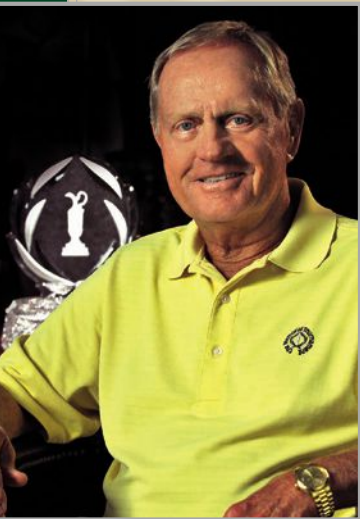


## Our Memorial family grows with a new honoree, sponsor

**I DON'T REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME** I met Nancy Lopez, but I certainly recall the first time I saw Nancy play, and that was during the Crosby, now known as the Pebble Beach National-Pro Am. This was in 1977, and Nancy was still an amateur player, and the one thing you never forget about a good golfer is how he or she swings the golf club. I needed only to see Nancy hit some balls, and it was obvious to me—and anyone else around—that she was going to be a player.

And was she ever a player.

Anyone who has followed the game even casually has heard of Nancy Lopez. All she did to begin her professional career in 1978 was to win nine times, including five in a row, to become both the LPGA Rookie of the Year and the Player of the Year. She backed up her rookie success by winning Player of the Year the following season, too. With her great play, sparkling personality and easy smile, Nancy brought a lot of attention to the women's game, making her a key figure in the growth of the LPGA. Between her playing record and her contributions to charity, Nancy Lopez is a well-deserving addition to our distinguished list of Memorial Tournament Honorees, and we are pleased to welcome her. Sharing the podium this week with Nancy is our Memorial Golf Journalism Honoree Art Spander, who has been an institution in sports writing in the San Francisco area for half a century and a good friend to Barbara and me for just as long.



I am equally pleased and deeply gratified to be able to talk about another addition to the Memorial Tournament family. It was a very special occasion for us last fall when a like-minded friend and partner in Nationwide Insurance joined us as presenting sponsor.

As natives of Columbus, Barbara and I have watched and respected Nationwide's long history of contributions to our community, as well as the game of golf. The fact that the Memorial Tournament already had a relationship with Nationwide through our charitable initiatives on behalf of Nationwide Children's Hospital is just one more reason to celebrate this news. There is a commonality and heartfelt commitment from Nationwide that will allow us to further our mission to showcase Central Ohio to the world, but first and foremost take care of the young boys and girls that are our world.

I'll close with one more mention about charity, which is something that is very important to Barbara and me and everyone involved with the Memorial Tournament. This enterprise wouldn't be nearly the success it is without the tireless work of the members of Muirfield Village Golf Club and the hundreds of volunteers. It's the hard work of these folks and support of our wonderful fans in Central Ohio that help raise significant dollars for Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation and all the other charities impacted. Though our special alliance with Nationwide Children's Hospital, all of the Tournament proceeds are directed towards helping children in our Ohio hometown.

We have a terrific field this week, our golf course is in impeccable shape, and we look forward to watching some great golf. Thanks to Nationwide Insurance and all of you in attendance here, we're most proud of continuing the Memorial Tournament's winning tradition of helping those less fortunate.

Thank you, and enjoy the week.



JACK NICKLAUS  
Founder and Host  
*the Memorial Tournament*