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## Hale Irwin Receives 2025 Dave Marr Award Prestigious award given annually for contributions and passion to the game of golf

**THE WOODLANDS, TX**—Hale Irwin is the 2025 recipient of the prestigious Dave Marr Award.

One of golf's most consistent players throughout his illustrious career, Irwin racked up 20 career titles on the PGA TOUR including three U.S. Open wins. None was more memorable than his third U.S. Open title in 1990 when he drained a 45-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole to force a playoff. Soon after, he became the oldest winner of the national championship at age 45. Four years later, he also became one of the oldest winners in Tour history, taking his final victory at the 1994 Heritage Golf Classic.

Inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1992, Irwin was unstoppable after turning 50. He is second all-time in PGA TOUR Champions wins and earnings with 45 victories and more than \$26 million. Only Bernhard Langer has won more times on the senior circuit with 47 titles.

"Dave Marr was one of the most gifted humans I've ever been around. He was the ultimate gentleman on and off the golf course, so this is a tremendous honor for me to receive this award in his name," said Irwin.

Widely regarded as the greatest player in PGA TOUR Champions history, Irwin won seven major titles on the senior circuit. In 2014, he became the first man since Gary Player in 2009 to shoot three rounds better than his age in a tournament.

Irwin was born in Joplin, Missouri in 1945 but spent the majority of his childhood in Baxter Springs, Kansas and Boulder, Colorado. His father introduced him to the game of golf at four years old, and he broke 70 for the first time 10 years later.

Irwin was a star athlete in baseball, football and golf.

He attended the University of Colorado where he played football for the Buffaloes and was a two-time All-Big Eight defensive back and academic All-American. He also won the individual NCAA championship in golf in his senior year in 1967.

Golf prevailed.

One year later, he turned professional. He captured his first win in 1971 at the Sea Pines Heritage Classic. His first U.S. Open triumph came at Winged Foot in 1974 where he won with a score of 7-overpar – the second highest winning score since 1945.

Irwin made 86 consecutive cuts on the PGA Tour between 1975 and 1978 and captured his second U.S. Open title in 1979.

He won professional tournaments on all six continents that golf is played: Africa; Australia; Asia; Europe; North America; and South America. Irwin played on five United States Ryder Cup Teams. In addition, he developed a career as a golf course architect.

Irwin is also considered one of the most generous and likeable people in the game of golf. For 25 years, he helped raise money for the St. Louis Children's Hospital which has a wing named in his honor. He was presented with the prestigious Payne Stewart Award in 2019 in recognition of his character, sportsmanship and commitment to charity.

"It's not the trophies, but it's the relationships that have been established over the years that is important. There really is no 'l' in team. It takes a collective effort. I am grateful to those people who have been around me for begin so encouraging and supportive. I believe it is so important to spread kindness in the world," added Irwin. "I have such tremendous respect for all of my fellow pros and their own journeys."

The Insperity Invitational celebrated Irwin's distinguished career during tournament week by presenting him with the prestigious Dave Marr Award at the 22nd anniversary of the Tournament's Player Dinner on Thursday evening.

Created in 1999 to honor individuals who exemplify the traits Mr. Marr lived by – sportsmanship, honesty, integrity and a passion for the game of golf – Irwin joins a prestigious list of winners who have done remarkable things both on the golf course, and in their communities. The rich history of recipients of the Dave Marr Award includes Arnold Palmer, Miller Barber, Don January, Ben Crenshaw, Larry Nelson, Tom Watson, Fuzzy Zoeller, Lee Trevino, Curtis Strange, Barbara Nicklaus, Bernhard Langer, Tom Lehman, Jim Nantz, Johnny Miller and last year's winner, Mark O'Meara.

"Dave Marr was a dear friend so recognizing the incredible people who make our game and communities great in his honor is a highlight for me each year during tournament week," said Bryan Naugle, who was a Dave Marr Award recipient in 2013. "Hale exemplifies what it means to be a professional. His results speak for themselves. But for me, it is how Hale carries himself as a person that makes him a true legend. He treats everyone with the utmost respect, cherishes his charitable work and is a true family man. Dave Marr would be very proud of what Hale has been able to accomplish."

## About the Insperity Invitational presented by UnitedHealthcare

A PGA TOUR Champions event, the Insperity Invitational features the world's premier golfers age 50 and older. With the support of its Official Sponsors: Woodforest National Bank, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Northside Imports Houston-Alfa Romeo, Workday, Pepsi, Sports Radio 610, National Car Rental, Breitling and Folds of Honor, the Insperity Invitational presented by UnitedHealthcare is managed and operated by Pro Links Sports. The tournament has received the prestigious Presidents Award as the best event on the Champions Tour, the President's Award for Excellence in Achievement and twice The Players Award for having the "best of everything" for the players, sponsors and spectators. Interfaith of The Woodlands, one of the local charities benefitting from the tournament, was named a PGA TOUR Champions Charity of the Year. Past champions include Larry Nelson, Jay Haas, Mark McNulty, four-time winner Bernhard Langer, John Cook, Fred Couples, Brad Faxon, Fred Funk, Esteban Toledo, Ian Woosnam, John Daly, Scott McCarron, Mike Weir, back-to-back winner, Steven Alker, and Scott Dunlap. For more information about the Tradition of Excellence at the Insperity Invitational, visit www.insperityinvitational.com, on Instagram @insperityinvitational, Twitter @InsperityInvtnl, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/InsperityInvitational.

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