

King Selected For Hall of Fame

Clarence King was 28 before he started playing golf, but in the relatively few years before his life was snuffed out in a plane crash, he did enough in golf to become the first person selected to the Roanoke Valley Hall of Fame.

The first Hall of Fame golf tournament will be held this weekend, starting Friday at Roanoke Country Club, and featuring 12-man teams from each of the valley's seven courses.

A Roanoke native, King began golf after service with the Navy in World War II. King's first effort in the Virginia State Open saw him shoot a 96, but several years later he was to set the course record at Ocean View Golf Club.

After living in Norfolk for eight years, King returned to Roanoke to operate a service station. As an amateur, he



Clarence King

enjoyed great success, winning the important Fairacres tournament at Hot Springs in 1954.

In 1957, the present Blue Hills Golf Club was reorganized and King was selected as the professional. He held that job until his death in a plane crash Oct. 4, 1970. That plane was piloted by another Roanoke sports celebrity, auto racer Curtis Turner.

Tech Alumni

The Southwest Virginia Tech alumni association will hold its annual picnic Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Hal Harkrader in Bristol.

New Tech head football coach Jimmy Sharpe and other members of the football staff will be present. Anyone wanting reservations should contact Jack Horner (615-764-6115) today.

King and his wife, the former Martha Wingo of Richmond, had four children, all of whom took an active interest in golf. Billy King is the current professional at Blue Hills, succeeding his father, and Brenda King Reynolds is married to the golf pro at Cliftondale in Clifton Forge.