## The association is proud to recognize and induct Joe Lazaro

into its inaugural 2007 class of the Hall of Fame.

Joe Lazaro and his wife, Edna ("Skip"), have been married for over 61 years and reside in Waltham, MA. They have three children, Lynne, Joan and Joseph Jr. Joe learned to play golf as a teenage caddie by watching other golfers swing. He lost his sight, at the age of 26, in WWII when a German land mine took his sight during the American invasion of Italy in 1944.

Joe played in his first USBGA championship in 1950 and has competed in well over fifty USBGA championships during his illustrious career. He is a seven-time National Champion and holds two International championships. Joe also served for years on the USBGA Board of Directors as well as continuing today as an active member of the Waltham Lions Club. Among Joe's many awards, he is most proud of his Ben Hogan Award, which he received in 1970. He was also presented with the PGA "Man of the Year" award in 1984.

Joe recognizes the importance of his coaches and says, "Blind Golf is a team game." He has had many coaches over the years, including the following:

Joe Curley, 1950-1959
John Callahan, 1960-1963
Robert Trethewey, 1964-1965
Mike Meehan, 1965-1972 and 1975-1978
Peter Bourque, 1973-1974, 1983-1985, 1995-1996
Steve Martini, 1979-1982
Jim Demoy, 1986-1994
Dick Roche, 2006-present

For over half a century Joe has exemplified great leadership, ability, and inspiration to his fellow members of the USBGA. In 1995, USBGA created an award for the Most Improved Player at each national championship. It is named the Lazaro Trophy in his honor.