

Gary Player



Shelia With Gary Player

The Senior's Tour came to Hobbit's Glen, a course near Columbia, Maryland. Shelia and I decided to go watch the practice round on Wednesday. We caught up with Gary Player as he was putting on the 9th green and decided to follow him for a while. He teed off on #10, a downhill par 4, and I started walking down the hill. After 20 yards or so, I looked back to make sure Shelia was coming with me. She was gone! I was looking all around, trying to figure out how she had disappeared so fast when Gary Player drove right by me and there she was, sitting in the cart with him. She remained in the cart while he completed the 10th and was still with him as he drove up to the tee box for the 11th which is a severe down hill par 3. Gary invited her up on the tee box with him and proceeded to hit a beautiful shot, high in the air, that landed within a few feet of the pin. He then looked to Shelia, who hadn't said a word, for some comment. "What did you think of that," he asked? She said, "Isn't that what you're supposed to do?" I guess she

considered him a professional and expected him to hit a good shot. She played the game only to keep from being a golf widow and never acquired that competitive fever that consumes most golfers.

Shelia rode in the cart with him for three holes and listened to him expound on a number of subjects including diet, exercise, the dangers of drinking diet soft drinks containing aspartame and the dangers of ticks and lyme disease. I stood by his cart and listened to most of the above while he was waiting to tee off on #12. He was a true gentleman without any pretensions.

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