

City of Columbus, GA  
Honorary Designation Application

(Please Print or Type)

APPLICANT NAME: Jason Crowson / Stephanie Callahan

PHONE NUMBER: 706-681-0529 / 706-587-3224

ADDRESS: 5245 Ray Drive Columbus, GA 31904

NAME OF HONOREE: Richard Callahan, Sr.  
(AS IT WOULD APPEAR ON SIGN OR FACILITY):

LIVING OR DECEASED  
(CIRCLE ONE)

REQUESTED LOCATION: Godwin Creek Golf Course

TYPE OF TRIBUTE OR REMEMBRANCE: Stone with Bronze plaque & Marble Bench

CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA, WHICH ARE USED IN THE EVALUATION FOR EACH REQUEST FOR AN HONORARY DESIGNATION. USE ADDITIONAL PAPER IF REQUIRED. IN ADDITION, HONOREE MUST BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.

**HISTORICAL AND/OR CULTURAL INFLUENCE OF THE HONOREE ON THE CITY:**

Historical influence of volunteering for over 13 years overseeing the only year-round Jr. Golf program serving all surrounding counties to include Muscogee, Russell County, Harris County and Marion County. Historically the area of Godwin was considered underserved lacking any culture and even frowned upon by some families before Richard pushed to assure parents this was a safe environment for kids of all ages to learn core values that could be used on and off the course. Richard showed generations of players a hidden jewel unknown to many -that was Godwin Creek.

**PROVIDE PROOF OF SIGNIFICANT LINEAGE OR FAMILY TIES TO THE CITY:**

The only proof of the family lineage/and or ties to our city would be recorded in Golf Authority records when we worked with John Milam taking over from where the First Tee program had to dissolve due to financial difficulty prior to 2011. The utilities were turned off and payments had to be hand delivered for a couple of years before we officially established a nonprofit called Fore Kids to fundraise and maintain the course. It was important to Richard to never take a salary for his efforts to save Godwin Creek for the future use for kids of all demographics. He was committed to serving the youth of our community out of the kindness of his heart never once turning a single child away.

**ESTABLISH CLEAR GEOGRAPHICAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE AREA OR PLACE OF INTEREST OF THE HONOREE:**

Richard's son (Andy) began playing at Godwin Creek in 2007 and there were clear signs that this establishment was about to close its doors and because this was in his very own 'backyard' he wanted to save it for not only his child but for the many other kids that might not have been given the same opportunity and resources to learn the game and learn life lessons of giving back to your own community through community service and passing down good values. Richard was looked up to by many but never looked down on anyone – he set the bar very high for future volunteers looking to 'make a difference' and not a profit.

**CLEARLY DEFINED COMMUNITY OR PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE HONOREE:**

If it were not for Richard giving the last 15 years of his life to Godwin Creek at no expense to the city or any other organization, the face of Jr. Golf as we know it today would not be what it is. The players and their families have showered him for over a decade with gifts of love and adoration because they knew he wouldn't accept anything other than smiles, high fives and 'ada boys' for his contribution. To define it you would have to reach out to the many local PGA pros, High School Coaches, players, families and caddies across our state that came through the doors of Godwin Creek. Or you might find it in Golf Authority minutes from when his wife Stephanie Callahan was allowed to report to John Milam – who at one time asked if Richard would also consider Oxbow for the Jr. Program.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:** James L. Cannon

**DATE:** 6-11-2024

*Send this completed application to the Deputy Clerk of Council at [mclmore.lindsey@columbusga.org](mailto:mclmore.lindsey@columbusga.org)*

*For questions, please contact the Clerk of Council's office at (706) 653-4013.*

*DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE:*

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**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date application was received by the Clerk of Council: June 11, 2024

Date application was submitted to the appropriate City Department to verify any conflicts for the placement of the tribute or remembrance and the requested honorary designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date response received from the City Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Any conflicts identified: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If so, give explanation and contact requestor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total cost associated with request: \_\_\_\_\_

Date listed on Clerk of Council's agenda for the consideration of Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Date reviewed by the Board of Honor: \_\_\_\_\_

Official action taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Upon approval from the Board of Honor, date resolution or ordinance listed for adoption by Council:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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