



Opal Hill, despite a battle with a life-threatening illness, managed to make a name for herself in the world of women's golf. She not only conquered the illness, but also went on to become a tournament champion. Doctors told her that she had only three years to live due to a lingering kidney infection that was the result of complications at childbirth. After following a doctor's advice to get physical activity, she became addicted to the game of golf. Hill had a very successful golf career, and she was one of the founders of the LPGA. She was married to Oscar Hill, an attorney, and had a nursing degree. She lived in Kansas City, Mo.

Career

- One of the 13 LPGA founders.
- In 1950, was considered the "matriarch of women's golf."
- Was a two-time winner of the Western Open (1935-36) and a three-time Missouri State champion (1935-37).
- In 1935, served as chairman of the USGA Women's Committee.
- Was a three-time winner of the Western Amateur (1929, 1931-32).
- Was a three-time winner of the Trans-Mississippi (1928-29, 1931).
- Nominated for four U.S. Curtis Cup Teams (including the unofficial 1930 match).
- In 1928, won the North and South Amateur Championship.
- Won the Miami Biltmore Doherty Cup three times and the Nassau Invitational twice.
- Served on women's executive boards for the Missouri Golf Association, the Trans-Mississippi and the USGA.
- Was the first recipient of the Joe Graffis Award and was a member of the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.
- Was the first LPGA Teaching and Club Professional (T&CP) Midwestern Section honorary member.
- Won the Kansas City Championship nine times.

LPGA Victories, Awards, Etc.

LPGA Awards (1): 2000 Commissioner's Award (LPGA Founders).