

ACA News Article
March, 31, 1997

On Saturday March 15th, Gus Szamboti was honored by being inducted into the American Cuemaker's Association Hall of Fame. Barry Szamboti accepted the award for his father at the ACA meeting at the Allen Hopkins Super Billiards Expo held in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Gus Szamboti (1931-1988) began making cues in 1969 after being laid off from RCA company where he was a designer/draftsman. Gus sold his Harley Davidson motorcycle to buy some wood, and used an IRS refund check to buy some equipment. Within a year of becoming a fulltime cuemaker, he had a 8 months backlog of cues.

In the early years, Gus also made parts for legendary cuemakers George Balabushka and Eugene Balner (Palmer Cues).

Gus was a perfectionist who on more than one occasion bought back some of his earlier cues and cut them up in a bandsaw. He didn't invent the cue, he just made it better.

Today, Gus's cues are some of the most sought after collectable cues on the planet. Many of these cues sell for many thousands of dollars more than they did only a few short years ago.

Other members of the Cuemaker's Hall of Fame include George Balabushka, Herman Rambow, Burton Spain, Ernie Gutierrez and Harvey Martin.