

Pamela Barton

Pamela Espeut Barton (4 March 1917 – 13 November 1943) was an English amateur golfer. She was born in the London suburb of Barnes, the daughter of Henry Charles Johnston Barton and Ethel Maude Barton.

In 1934, aged 17, she won the French International Ladies Golf Championship and after being runner-up in 1934 and 1935, she won the 1936 British Ladies Amateur. She then traveled to the Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit, New Jersey where she won the U.S. Women's Amateur over Maureen Orcutt. Her victory was the first by a foreign competitor in 23 years and the first time in 27 years that a player held both the British and U.S. titles simultaneously

Barton was a member of the British team to compete in the 1934 and 1936 Curtis Cup and in 1937 her book *A Stroke a Hole* was published in the United Kingdom by Blackie & Son

In 1939, Barton won her second British Ladies Amateur but following the outbreak of World War II she immediately signed up as an ambulance driver and served in London through the Battle of Britain. In early 1941 she joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) as a radio operator; later gaining a commission she served as a Flight Officer in command of a staff of more than 600 at RAF Manston in Kent.

On 13 November 1943, 26-year-old Barton was killed in an air crash at RAF Detling when a de Havilland Tiger Moth in which she was a passenger hit a fuel bowser on take-off in bad weather.^[1] She was buried with military honours at the Margate Cemetery in Margate, Kent. Her friend and pilot of the Tiger Moth was Flight Lieutenant Angus Ruffhead survived the crash but was killed in action over France a few weeks later

In her honour, the "Pam Barton Memorial Salver" is awarded to the winner of the British Ladies Amateur Golf Championship.

In his 2001 book, *The Golf 100: Ranking the Greatest (Female) Golfers of All Time*, Robert McCord ranked Pamela Barton 34th.

Team appearances

Amateur

- Curtis Cup (representing Great Britain & Ireland): 1934, 1936 (tie)
- Vagliano Trophy (representing Great Britain & Ireland): 1934 (tie), 1936 (winners), 1937 (winners), 1938 (winners), 1939 (winners)

References

- ↑ "Archived copy" (https://web.archive.org/web/20071006032129/http://www.thanet.gov.uk/pdf/FoM%20Cem_4.pdf) (PDF). Archived from the original (http://www.thanet.gov.uk/pdf/FoM%20Cem_4.pdf) (PDF) on 6 October 2007. Retrieved 8 April 2013.
- ↑ Curtis, Margaret (June 1948). "Pam Barton Memorial Day" (PDF). USGA. Retrieved 14 June 2007.

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