

FROM: James P. Chapman, Inc.
550 Washington Boulevard Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226
Contact: Jim Chapman (313) 961-6233 or in
Indianapolis: Atkinson Hotel, (317) 639-5611

DAN GURNEY

Dan Gurney ranked as America's top international driver and one of the most versatile stars of motor sports before his retirement from competition in 1970.

He is the only driver in history to have scored major victories in each of the four primary types of motor racing - Grand Prix, USAC championship cars, stock cars, and sports cars.

Gurney has won more Formula 1 (Grand Prix) races (six) than any other American driver, and his 1967 victory in the Belgian Grand Prix, piloting his own Eagle, was the first Grand Prix victory by an American driver and car in more than 46 years.

Since 1967, Gurney has compiled an impressive record of victories in major races of every type. In addition to his Grand Prix triumphs, he won the Le Mans 24-hour race in a Mark IV with co-driver A. J. Foyt, six important USAC road course races (including the Rex Mays 300 twice), and the Riverside 500 stock car race six times.

In USAC racing alone, after forming an association with Oscar L. (Ozzie) Olson, Detroit industrialist and sportsman in December, 1967, he entered 13 events with his Olsonite Eagle, winning six, finishing second in three (twice at Indy), third in two (once at Indy), fourth in another, and leading for several laps in the other, the Ontario 500, before hitting the wall with his car.

Along the way, the veteran driving star also established new speed records to win the pole position in eight of those 13 races and set new track records in each of the six races he won.

Father of five children, he is president and owner of All-American Racers, Inc., Santa Ana, Calif., the firm which built his Indianapolis and Grand Prix Eagles, and redesigned his Trans-Am and Can-Am race cars.

Testimony of Gurney's driving skills in all types of motor racing was voiced by Car & Driver magazine in a ranking of the top 10 U. S. drivers. The publication ranked Gurney No. 1 in the U. S., noting, "The greatest American race driver active today - maybe even the best of all time - is Dan Gurney".

Gurney was born in Port Jefferson, L. I., N. Y. His family moved to Southern California when Gurney was a teen-ager, and he grew up in the Riverside, Calif., area.

Gurney's international popularity is second to no American driver in history. Along with the late Jimmy Clark of Scotland, he is the only two-time winner of the Martini & Rossi Motor Sportsman of the Year award, selected by popular vote of motor racing fans of the world.

#