

# MARIO ANDRETTI

## HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS

- **Lehigh Valley Sports Hall of Fame**, Northampton, PA (2017)
- **Superman Hall of Heroes**, [supermanhallofheroes.com](http://supermanhallofheroes.com) (2015)
- **National Motorsports Press Association Hall of Fame**, Concord, NC (2014)
- **Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame**, International Inductee, Toronto (2013)
- **USAC (United States Auto Club) Hall of Fame**, Indianapolis, Indiana (2012)
- **Diecast Hall of Fame** (2012)
- **Motor Sport Hall of Fame**, *Motor Sport Magazine*, London, England (2010)
- **Long Beach Motorsports Walk of Fame**. The "walk" is on South Pine Avenue in Long Beach, California; 22-inch bronze medallions are imbedded into the sidewalk, representing each inductee. Mario inducted in 2008. He won the Long Beach Grand Prix in 1977 (F1), 1984, 1985 and 1987 (Indy Car).
- **Hot Wheels Hall of Fame**, Mattel, Inc. (2006); exhibit is housed at Petersen Automotive Museum, Los Angeles, California
- **Automotive Hall of Fame**, Dearborn, Michigan (2005)
- **Sebring International Raceway Hall of Fame**, Sebring, Florida (2004)
- **International Motorsports Hall of Fame**, Talladega, Alabama (2000)
- **National Sprint Car Hall of Fame**, Knoxville, Iowa (1996)
- **National Association of Auto Racing Fan Clubs Hall of Fame** (1995)
- **Motorsports Hall of Fame of America**, Novi, Michigan (1990)
- **Indianapolis 500 Oldtimers' Hall of Fame**, Speedway, Indiana (1986)
- **Eastern Old Timers Auto Racing Club Hall of Fame** (1982)
- **National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame**, Chicago, Illinois (1981)
- **American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame** (1976)
- **Hoosier Auto Racing Fans Hall of Fame** (1970)

## DISTINGUISHED AWARDS AND HONORS

**2017** Mario was the recipient of the prestigious 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award at the fourth annual Clio Sports Awards ceremony in New York on **May 16**. The esteemed international award competition was launched to celebrate high achievement in sport advertising and marketing. The Clio team looks at work from around the world to identify creativity that moves consumers and makes icons of brands. Mario was honored for pushing boundaries and paving the way for new talent, inspiring and showing the next generation of drivers how excellence and endurance in his work, as well as loyalty to the brands he endorses, makes for a storied career, and exemplifies the Clio mission of fostering talent, groundbreaking work and creativity.

On **May 20**, Mario was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Sports Hall of Fame, Class of 2017. The Lehigh Valley is where Mario has made his home since 1955. The inductees include former high school, college, recreational, semi-pro and professional athletes, coaches and others who were among the very best in their sport from the Lehigh Valley over the past 50 years.

Mario was honored by the International Motor Racing Research Center (IMRRC) on **August 31** with the 2017 Cameron R. Argetsinger Award for outstanding contributions to motorsports. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual award and was held at the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York. Previous honorees were Chip Ganassi, Richard Petty and Roger Penske. On the same day, the Mayor of Watkins Glen, New York proclaimed August 31, 2017 as Mario Andretti Day and granted him honorary citizenship.

**2016** City of Lucca, Italy names Mario an honorary citizen at ceremony on **January 9**. It is a coveted recognition that is given sparingly to a native Italian of good character who represents the city with pride anywhere in the world. Mario was honored by other local and regional organizations during his visit to the town where he lived for 7-1/2 years as a refugee with his family after World War II.

**2015** The City of Indianapolis presented Mario with its Tourism Leadership Award for his role in helping showcase Indianapolis as a vibrant city both domestically and internationally. The award was presented **January 22** at the Visit Indy annual meeting in front of some 1000 people who have businesses in Indianapolis. Visit Indy, formerly the Convention & Visitors Association, has been promoting the city since 1923. As Mario received his award, the Mayor declared January 22, 2015 as Mario Andretti Day in Indianapolis.

In **April** Mario was welcomed into the 2015 class of the Superman Hall of Heroes. Inspired by the global icon, Superman, this Hall pays tribute to people who have made a positive impact on the lives of others. It celebrates public

servants from all walks of life who set a positive example.

On **December 14**, The Scuderia Ferrari Club of Italy staged an unforgettable night in Mario's honor. Upon Mario's arrival to the location, the Salone dei Cavalieri of the Bolognini castle, an hour's drive from Milan, he was greeted with a magnificent display of ceremonial grandeur, the sort commonly seen at coronations. The pomp and circumstance led to a splendid celebration, wonderful dinner and the SFC presenting Mario with the "Cavellino d'Oro" (Golden Horse) for his legendary career.

At its annual awards night, the Italian weekly magazine *Autosprint* presents "golden helmets" to champion race drivers participating in the top categories of motorsport. On **December 15**, Mario accepted a special "golden helmet legend", as a reward for a career not capable of being imitated. Referring to his World F1 championship and all of his US victories, but in particular the Indianapolis 500 and Daytona 500.... *Autosprint* called Mario "the hero of two worlds". The prize giving took place at the Pirelli headquarters in Milan in a theater style room, a setting and presentation which could be compared to the Oscars of motorsports.

- 2014** Mario is one of ten honorees featured in the book *PrimiDieci* 2014. It is a book published every year by the Italian cultural organization PrimiDieci Society and celebrates Italians whose singular accomplishments have distinguished them in the most varied sectors of American life. Each edition of the book features ten Italians in the United States. It is an exemplary way to acknowledge the affection felt toward Italy and also the prestige that the values and the qualities associated with Italy have attained, thanks to the successful efforts and activities of many like the ten whose extraordinary stories are recounted in the pages of *PrimiDieci*.
- 2011** GQ Magazine names Mario one of "The 25 Coolest Athletes of All Time" (February 2011 issue)
- Awarded the *Premio Internazionale Giorno Del Ricordo* in Rome in recognition of outstanding contribution to sport
- 2010** Received Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lido Civic Club of Washington, DC. The Club brings together local Italian American businessmen to enjoy their shared business interests and their Italian American culture, while volunteering in various philanthropic activities.
- IndyCar Series names Road Course Championship trophy after Mario. The *Mario Andretti Road Course Championship* trophy is to be presented annually to the driver with the most points through road/street course events on the schedule.
- 2008** Library of Congress in Washington DC adds Mario to its *Living Legends*

list. The Library is the world's preeminent reservoir of knowledge, providing unparalleled resources to Congress and the American people. The Living Legend award honors artists, writers, activists, filmmakers, physicians, entertainers, sports figures and public servants who have made significant contributions to America's diverse cultural, scientific and social heritage.

**2007**

Mario is awarded the FIA Gold Medal for Motor Sport at a gala ceremony at the Monaco Sporting Club, in the presence of His Serene Highness Prince Albert of Monaco. The FIA Gold Medal is awarded to an individual that, either through exceptional success, or outstanding effort, has made a substantial contribution to motor racing. The recipient is selected by the FIA Academy, which is made up of eight senior members of the FIA and its national automobile clubs. The FIA is the governing body of international motor sport.

Received the Vince Lombardi Award of Excellence at a dinner event in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made a "Hall of Fame" contribution to a sport, profession, or business in a manner that exemplifies appreciation of God, country, society, family and self. The award was presented to Mario by Bart Starr.

**2006**

The White House selected Mario to be part of the US delegation at the closing ceremonies of the XX Winter Olympics in Torino (Feb. 26, 2006). He was joined by Rudy Giuliani, Ronald Spogli the US ambassador to Italy, and Dr. A. Kenneth Ciongoli, chairman of the National Italian American Foundation.

In October 2006 Mario received the title of *Commendatore* from the Republic of Italy. His knighthood was the result not only of his spectacular racing career, but also his epic life story as a classic example of the immigrant made good in America.

A trophy called *The Mario Andretti Trophy* is presented for the first time by SPEED. It is now presented annually to a racer who puts a premium on winning races, shines on motor sports' biggest stages and does it all with a measure of sportsmanship and class. The trophy itself, a true work of art created by bronze sculptor Elie Hazak, stands 38 inches tall and weighs 95 pounds. It features eight cars, including six of the most important in Mario's rise to superstardom, as well as an array of artistic symbolism that captures the essence of the trophy's namesake.

Received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Italian American Foundation East Coast Gala

**2005**

Voted to International Race of Champions (IROC) All-Time Legends Team

- 2004** Mario is Grand Marshal of New York City's Columbus Day Parade, the largest celebration of Italian and Italian-American heritage in the world. To coincide with this honor of this, Mario's career was chronicled in an exhibit of race cars, photos and video for 5 days (Oct. 4-8) in Grand Central Terminal on Park Avenue. A temporary theater was installed to show a continuously run 10-minute video of Mario's career.
- 2002** Mario is named one of "Top 300 Italians in America" by *Primo* magazine
- 2000** Presented with National Education & Leadership Award by Sons of Italy Foundation in Washington, DC at May 25th gala.
- RACER magazine names Mario the "**American Driver of the Century**" (January 2000 issue)
- 1999** Mario is named "**Driver of the Century**" by the *Associated Press*, tying with AJ Foyt for this title (December 10, 1999)
- Mario received the "Inspirational Figure for our Children Award" from The Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward County, Florida at their 32nd annual *Champions & Heroes* dinner. The person chosen for this honor must be someone children can respect and admire, someone they want to emulate, someone who has acted as a mentor to others.
- Received "Lifetime Achievement in Sports" award from the Coalition of Italo-American Associations
- 1998** Awarded a gold medal from Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters for contributions to state and nation
- 1997** Received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales in Pennsylvania at May 17th commencement
- Received "National Father of the Year" award from National Father's Day Committee in New York
- 1996** Named PPG Colorful Character by PPG Industries, Inc.
- 1995** Received honorary Doctor of Science degree from the New England Institute of Technology at May 7th commencement in Providence, Rhode Island
- Received "America's Finest" award from New England Tech
- Received "Miller Nice Guy Award" at Red Smith Sports Awards Banquet in Appleton, Wisconsin

Received American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association's "Rick Mears Award"

Received Special Achievement Award from Philadelphia Sports Writers Association

Received "The Louis Meyer Award" from the Indianapolis 500 Oldtimers Club

- 1994** Received "Chris Economaki Award" for lifetime achievement, from the Driver of the Year Foundation
- Turn 2 at Laguna Seca Raceway is renamed "Andretti Hairpin" in honor of Mario
- Turn 1 of the Belle Isle track in Detroit named "Mario Andretti Turn"
- Received Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for outstanding contribution to the world of race car driving
- 1993** Mario becomes oldest race winner in IndyCar history with his victory at Phoenix (53 years, 34 days)
- 1992** Received "Five Decades of Achievement" award at the Cleveland Grand Prix
- Named "Driver of the Quarter Century" by vote of past Drivers of the Year and a panel of 12 journalists.
- 1991** Received "Ambassador of Motorsports Award" from Cleveland 500 Foundation.
- Named Gala Italia "Man of the Year". Gala Italia has been promoting the best of Italy in the United States for more than a quarter of a century.
- Received ARETE Lifetime Achievement Award for courage in sports
- 1990** Honored as "King of the Road" by Colden Center for the Performing Arts, Queens College, New York
- Received *Autosport Magazine* "Gregor Grant Award" for lifetime achievement in motor sport. Presented annually at the Autosport Awards.
- Received Lifetime Achievement Award from Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame

- 1989** Named ABC Wide World of Sports "Athlete of the Week"  
(April 29, 1989)
- Received Molson Indy Achievement Award
- 1986** Mario was commissioned a "Kentucky Colonel" on June 12, 1986 by Governor Martha Layne Collins. Kentucky colonel is the highest title of honor bestowed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Commissions for Kentucky colonels are given by the Governor and the Secretary of State to individuals in recognition of noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to a community, state or the nation. The Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky bestows the honor of a colonel's Commission, by issuance of a published written order.
- 1985** Mario receives Patrick Jacquemart Trophy, presented by Renault USA
- 1984** Mario wins his fourth Indy Car National Championship (CART)  
(1965, 1966, 1969, 1984)
- "Admiration and Appreciation Award" from the men & women of Tactical Air Command, presented to Mario by General W. L. Creech at the TAC Commanders Conference. General Creech was a four-star general who, as a combat pilot, flew 280 missions and was decorated 39 times, including 22 awards for bravery in combat. He flew more than 40 types of aircraft including fighter, reconnaissance and cargo planes. As head of Tactical Air Command, Creech oversaw the development of the A-10s, F-15s, F-16s, the F-15E night fighter, and the Stealth fighter.
- "Driver of the Year" sponsored by Eljer
- Victor Award (City of Hope Driver of the Year)
- Auto Racing Digest* "Driver of the Year"
- MotorWeek Illustrated* "Racer of the Year"
- Eastern Motorsports Press Association "Driver of the Year"
- Named "Driver of the Year" by Hoosier Auto Racing Fans (HARF)
- Mario receives the "Jerry Titus Memorial Award", which is the American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) "Driver of the Year" award.
- 1982** Valvoline Oil Company presented Mario with an award for his "contributions

to the sport of racing and racing sportsmanship".

CART Goodwill Ambassador Award (Championship Auto Racing Teams)

**1981** Member of SKOAL Auto Racing All America Team as selected by American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA)

**1980** Voted "Professional Driver of the Year" by UNICO NATIONAL

**1979** "Most Outstanding Athlete" award presented by the Philadelphia Sports Writers Association at their 75th annual awards dinner

Mario becomes International Race of Champions titlest

**1978** Mario becomes Formula One World Champion

“Driver of the Year” sponsored by Olsonite

Mario receives the "Jerry Titus Memorial Award", which is the American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) "Driver of the Year" award.

*Auto Racing Digest* “Driver of the Year”

Auto Racing Fraternity Foundation “Driver of the Year”

Eastern Motorsports Press Association "Eastern Driver of the Year"

Member of American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) Racing All America Team

**1977** *Motor Magazine* in Rome, Italy "Driver of the Year"

*Auto Racing Digest* "Driver of the Year"

Mario receives the "Jerry Titus Memorial Award", which is the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) "Driver of the Year" award

Member of American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) Racing All America Team

Eastern Motorsports Press Association "Eastern Driver of the Year"

- 1976** Bicentennial Award presented by Golden Slipper Club for bringing honor to Philadelphia
- 1975** Receives the "Mark Donohue Memorial Award" from the Eastern Motorsports Press Association as "Driver of the Year"
- Member of American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) Racing All America Team
- 1974** Mario becomes USAC National Dirt Track champion
- Named "Genesee Driver of the Year" by Genesee Brewing Co.
- 1970** Member of American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA) Racing All America Team
- 1969** Mario wins the Indianapolis 500
- Mario wins Pikes Peak Hillclimb
- Mario wins his third Indy Car National Championship (USAC)
- Named ABC Wide World of Sports "Athlete of the Year"
- City of Nazareth, Pennsylvania renames Market Street to "Victory Lane" in honor of Mario winning the 1969 Indianapolis 500
- Named "Driver of the Year" by Hoosier Auto Racing Fans (HARF)
- 1968** Award for outstanding service from the National Easter Seals Society for Crippled Children and Adults
- 1967** Mario wins the Daytona 500
- Vanderbilt Cup Award for "outstanding achievements and becoming the nation's most recognized driver"
- Martini and Rossi "Driver of the Year"
- 1966** Mario wins his second Indy Car National Championship (USAC)
- Selected to appear in the 1966 edition of *Outstanding Young Men of America*
- Schmidt's Sports Award in recognition of outstanding contribution to the sports life of the Delaware Valley (Pennsylvania)

**1965** In his first full season, Mario wins his first Indy Car National Championship and was the youngest to do so. (USAC)

Rookie of the Year at Indianapolis 500

Sports Personality of 1965, from the Phoenix Press Box Association

**1963** United Racing Club (URC) presented Mario with a trophy for "ability under adverse conditions."