

Hubert Green, Who Won Golf's U.S. Open Under a Threat, Dies at 71

By [Richard Sandomir](#)

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Hubert Green, whose unorthodox golf swing helped carry him to 19 PGA Tour victories, including one at the United States Open in 1977, when he continued to play despite learning of a death threat during the final round, died on Tuesday in Birmingham, Ala. He was 71.

The cause was complications of throat cancer, his nephew Andrew Green said.

Green had just finished the 14th hole at the '77 U.S. Open, at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla., when tournament officials told him that a woman had called to say that three of her friends were going to shoot him at the 15th hole.

Leading by one stroke, Green was told he could keep playing, wait for the course to be cleared of fans or resume play the next day without a gallery. He chose to continue without interruption, but accompanied by nine armed police officers.

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