



**NOMINATION FORM**  
For  
**HONORED MEMBERSHIP**  
In The  
**U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME**

Candidates Name: **Renie (Cox) Gorsuch and Dave Gorsuch**

Date & Place of Birth: **Renie, 9/15/38, Lowville, N.Y.; Dave, 9/22/38, Climax, CO.**

Address of Candidates: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: Renie: [REDACTED] Dave Gorsuch: [REDACTED]

Are the candidates still living? : **Yes**

**Nominator information:**

Name: David Ingemie

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

For what category are you nominating this candidate? **Snow-Sports Builder**

**An 8 x 10 photograph of the candidate must be supplied: will send under separate cover**  
State why the candidate merits election to the U.S. National Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame

Renie and Dave Gorsuch teamed up to establish a business renowned for excellence in ski wares and accessories. Their stores have creative displays of skiing including ski gear, housewares, and accessories. To reach a world-wide reputation of this magnitude is rare, and Dave and Renie have achieved this level. Bringing mountain elegance and a refined fashion sense to the slopes was no easy task, especially in the early days of the sport, but Gorsuch Ltd. soon became the model for fashion and service for the ski industry. They set a national standard for nurturing a sophisticated fashion sense blending the best of the Alps and the Rockies. Since 1962 the Gorsuches have excelled in providing unique and finely crafted sports gear and accessories along with a special customer relationship for alpine or mountain living.

Gorsuch is a national and international brand with a circulation of over 3.5 million catalogues. With stores in Colorado and Utah they have supported and helped define the industry from a ski fashion and sports performance brand for generations. Gorsuch's have supported Ski Clubs across the U. S. for decades, along with major support for World Cup racing and World Championships in Aspen and Beaver Creek/Vail for the last 30 years. For over 20 years Gorsuch's have supported outreach programs that have given literally thousands of children ski and snowboard equipment.

Dave and Renie Gorsuch met at the Junior Nationals in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in 1954. As members of the 1960 US Olympic Ski Team, Renie and David Gorsuch fell in love and married. Settling in Colorado, they raised three boys and started a small family business in 1962, Gorsuch Limited. Together with their sons John, Jeff and Davy, they have built a globally recognized lifestyle brand with their retail/hospitality locations, catalog, web sales totaling over 50 million dollars annually.

In a world of global sameness in the retail environment, Gorsuch is an oasis of excitement and surprise. When one enters a Gorsuch store, there is a sense of coming home that is familiar and welcoming. From day one, the Gorsuch family's philosophy has been to create a place where people feel not only comfortable, but confident that their needs will be met with a smile. The Gorsuch stores are a destination in and of themselves. What was accomplished over the next 50 years is a fantastic success story. One store expanded into 11 locations. They both have a passion and tireless dedication to their customers with a world-wide reputation of the utmost quality and customer satisfaction.

The magic of the store is in the variety, range and presentation of unique products. Beyond its deservedly famous clothing lines, Gorsuch has become synonymous with the alpine lifestyle as a whole, including antiques, furnishings, fine china, silver and collectibles. The line includes a cultivation of luxurious goods that are impervious to the whims of fashion and lifestyle design by balancing the highest traditions of workmanship with demanding modern sensibilities

Along the way, they found time to become an integral part of the Vail Valley with involvement in the founding of the Vail Mountain School, the Vail Valley Medical Center, the Steadman Hawkins Foundation, the Jimmy Heuga Foundation and the Ski Club Vail board to name only a few. Renie and Dave are both in the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame, and Colorado Business Hall of Fame.

In chronological order by year, list the candidate's achievements:

Pre Business and racing years:

**1953**, Dave won U.S. Junior National Slalom Championship, (youngest skier to ever participate in Jr. Nationals). **1954**, Dave was Jr. National Combined Champ in **1954** and **1956**. Also that year, Renie Gorsuch won the slalom U. S. National title. **1958**, Dave and Renie, on U.S. F.I.S. team.

**1960**, Renie, Olympics, slalom 9<sup>th</sup>; Dave, Olympics, 14<sup>th</sup> Downhill, 14<sup>th</sup> Giant Slalom

**1963**, skiing for Western State College Dave won the N.C.A.A. Downhill title, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Slalom and Combined. 1964, he led the Mountaineers to 2<sup>nd</sup> place team N.C.A.A. by coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> in Sl. & 3<sup>rd</sup> G.S.

Business Years:

**1961**, Dave was hired as mountain manager of Crested Butte, Colorado.

**1962**, Started a small retail store in Gunnison, Colorado.

**1966**, opened Vail store.

**1969**, the store was named "Ski Retailer of the Year" by Ski Industries of America, and again in 2003.

**1972 to today**. They were innovative in going to Europe on buying trips directly to stores and factories acquiring the newest and latest in styles.

**1976**, Gorsuch catalogue established and has evolved a world-wide audience.

**2000 to present** supporting the Outreach Aspen program donating 300 pairs of skis a year to young skiers.

**2002**, Dave voted into Colorado Ski Hall of Fame. **2007**, Renie voted into Colorado Ski Hall of Fame.

**2012**, Renie and Dave voted into Colorado Business Hall of Fame.

Spent numerous years helping out the Jimmie Heuga Express for M.S.

A sponsor of the Korbels Legends race in Vail. A fund raising event that brings in past Olympic and World Cup heroes for a fund-raising race.

Renie received the "Golden Bear" award for her service on the hospital board.

The power of the brand is evident from its eleven locations including their headquarters in the landmark clock tower building in Vail, The store at the gondola base of Aspen Mountain in The little Nell Hotel, to its premier locations in Beaver Creek, Snowmass, and Keystone and their newest location In Park City, on historic Main Street. Gorsuch has hospitality locations include that include the Four Seasons Vail, Grand Hyatt Beaver Creek, Hotel Jerome Aspen and Little Nell Hotel Aspen, and The Snowmass Club.

**On one page provide additional data, anecdotes, etc. that you feel are pertinent to this nomination:**

Jack Gorsuch, Dave's father, became interested in skiing at an early age. With three friends, he built a rope tow at Climax (Co.) and put in lighting for night skiing. The night lighting became very popular with the ski troops training at Camp Hale. Dave started skiing at about 18 months of age on skis made by his father. That was the early start leading to an outstanding racing career. Thus began 4 generations of skiing and 3 generations of ski racers to make the National and International level.

Renie Gorsuch was born in upstate New York and learned to ski at Snow Ridge under the guidance of a European instructor named Otto Von Allman. Under his direction, she became an Olympic prospect. Renie left Middlebury College to join the U.S. Ski Team for the 1960 Olympics. She also taught at the Loveland Ski Area ski school.

Renie and Dave Gorsuch were married at the age of 21 in 1960 after the Olympics at Squaw Valley. Dave attended Western State College in Gunnison, worked part-time as a janitor and graduated in 1964. Renie had a job teaching first grade. In September, 1962, they opened their first ski shop. Those were lean times for the couple.

In 1961, Crested Butte, opened up for business. The ski area was located near Gunnison and Western State College, Because of his skiing experience. In September of 1964 Dave Gorsuch became the mountain manager. He would help many of the college students with their equipment and would assist in mounting their bindings. As Renie recalls:

"One day everyone had brought their skis in to be mounted and all the skis were lined up against the wall. We only had three nice things in the house at that time - Tiffany candlesticks, a hollow skier, and one other thing. The skis came crashing down and broke all our nice things. That was it. If we were going to mount bindings, we were going to charge.

"We talked about it and decided to start a business. Then we went out and rented a garage. We lived in a little apartment above it. We covered the walls with burlap and barn board. We went to our first ski show in April 1962. That summer I knitted about 100 ski hats, and when we opened, we didn't even have enough skis to fill the ski rack. So we put some of our old skis on it, too. Everybody helped out. We carried Bogner clothing and Head skis. The first year we made \$25,000. We lived on my teacher's salary. Dave would open at noon and run the shop until I got home at 4:30 p.m. and then he would go to training." That was the start of the Gorsuch sports-shop business.

Over the past half-century, Gorsuch has come to define the mountain lifestyle and those who live it. It is still family-owned and operated.

A key to the continuing success and growth of the company has been their love and passion for skiing, ski racing and the mountains which they have passed on to their three sons, John, Jeff and Davy. All three have grown up in the brand and each plays a significant role in the company and continued success.

Please list the names and addresses of those people who are supporting this nomination

**Penny Pitou, Honored Member, Class of 1976 (U.S. Ski Team)**

100 Potter Hill Road, Gilford, New Hampshire, 03249 [penny@pennypitoutravel.com](mailto:penny@pennypitoutravel.com)

**Phil Mahre, Honored Member, Class of 1981, 70 Roza View Dr., Yakima, WA, 98901**

[philmahrel@gmail.com](mailto:philmahrel@gmail.com)

**Graham Anderson, Honored Member, Class of 1984**

P. O. Box 2078, Ketchum, ID 83340 [graham@sunvalleynet.com](mailto:graham@sunvalleynet.com)

**AJ Kitt, Honored Member Class of 2003, PO Box 1562, Hood River, OR 97031**

[aj.kitt13@gmail.com](mailto:aj.kitt13@gmail.com)

**Doug Lewis, Honored Member Class of 2007, NBC/Universal Sports Alpine Analyst,  
802-793-3078 (cell)**

**Tiger Shaw, President and CEO, U.S. Ski & Snowboard Association** [tshaw@ussa.org](mailto:tshaw@ussa.org)

**Richard Wagner, Skier enthusiast,** [rbwagner@charter.net](mailto:rbwagner@charter.net)>

In addition, other honored members in support are:

**Christin Cooper, class of 1984 ; Bob Beattie, class of 1984; Bill Marolt, class of 1993;  
Chris Davenport, class of 2014; Erik Schlopy, class of 2014; Steve Mahre, class of 1984;  
Linda Myers Tikalsky, class of 1982; Joan Hannah, class of 1978; Chuck Ferries, class of  
1989; Barbara (Ferries) Henderson, class of 1978; Erich Sailer, class of 2005;  
Tom Corcoran, class of 1978; Ralph Miller, class of 2014; and Beverly Anderson  
Brockway, U.S. & Olympic Ski Team 1960.**

**Please provide a list of sources for visual material that can be used at the candidate's  
induction presentation:**

<http://www.coloradobusinesshalloffame.org/david-and-renie-gorsuch.html>

Additional materials will be provided

David Ingemie