



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FIVA honours rally legend Sandro Munari with posthumous Heritage Hall of Fame induction in Bologna

Five FIVA Vice Presidents and leading figures from the rallying world joined the Italian champion's family at Auto e Moto d'Epoca for a special tribute to his life and achievements.

Bologna, 28 October 2026 – The **Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens (FIVA)** honoured Italian rally legend **Sandro Munari** with a posthumous induction into the **FIVA Heritage Hall of Fame 2026** during **Auto e Moto d'Epoca in Bologna**. The ceremony, held on **Saturday 24 October** at the **ASI Village in BolognaFiere**, celebrated Munari's extraordinary career and lasting contribution to international motorsport.

Nominated by the **Automotoclub Storico Italiano (ASI)**, FIVA's National Member for Italy, Munari was selected for the prestigious recognition in honour of his extraordinary contribution to international motorsport. The Italian rally legend, who passed away on 28 February 2026 at the age of 85, was celebrated not only for his sporting achievements but also **for the passion, determination and personal qualities that made him an inspiration to generations of drivers and enthusiasts**.

One of the most emotional moments of the ceremony was the presentation of the award to Munari's wife, **Flavia**, and their three children, **Matteo, Alessia and Maria Luce**, in the presence of **five FIVA Vice Presidents**. The occasion was a heartfelt celebration of both the champion and the man, bringing his family together with the international historic vehicle community to commemorate a life that helped shape the history of rallying.

The ceremony also brought together several prominent figures from the rallying world, including **Carlo Cavicchi**, a close friend of Munari, **Gianni Tonti** and **two-time World Rally Champion Miki Biasion**. Their personal recollections and tributes offered an insight into Munari's remarkable career and the lasting impact he had on the sport, highlighting not only his achievements behind the wheel but also the personal qualities that earned him widespread respect and admiration.

Known as the **"Dragon of Cavarzere"**, Munari was one of the defining figures of the golden age of rallying. His exceptional driving talent, determination and competitive spirit took him to the highest levels of international motorsport, making him a true ambassador for Italian sporting excellence. Closely associated with Lancia's legendary rallying successes, his achievements helped establish the Italian marque as a dominant force in international competition and further enhanced the worldwide reputation of Italy's automotive and motorsport heritage.

Among the highlights of his remarkable career were **four victories at the Monte Carlo Rally**: his first in 1972 behind the wheel of the Lancia Fulvia HF, followed by three consecutive triumphs from 1975 to 1977 with the iconic Lancia Stratos. He also became European Rally Champion in 1973 and, in 1977, the first Italian driver to win the FIA Cup for Rally Drivers, the precursor to the World Rally Championship drivers' title. These achievements secured his place among the greatest rally drivers of all time.





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The ceremony also provided an opportunity to revisit Munari's remarkable rallying career through two historic Lancia competition cars associated with his appearances at the Safari Rally: **the Fulvia HF**, with which he finished third overall in 1974, and **the Stratos Group 4**, which he drove in the 1976 edition. The display highlighted Munari's close association with Lancia and his contribution to one of the most significant periods in international rallying.

Beyond his sporting achievements, **Sandro Munari's induction into the FIVA Heritage Hall of Fame recognises the lasting contribution he made to motorsport and the values he represented throughout his life.** His talent, determination and strength of character earned him the respect and admiration of fellow competitors and enthusiasts alike, leaving a legacy that continues to inspire future generations.

Munari is among the nine personalities selected for the FIVA Heritage Hall of Fame in 2026, an initiative honouring individuals who have made outstanding contributions to motoring history. As FIVA celebrates its 60th anniversary, his induction reflects the Federation's commitment to preserving not only historic vehicles, but also the stories, achievements and personalities that have shaped automotive heritage, ensuring that their legacy is passed on to future generations.

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FIVA

FIVA (the Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens) is the worldwide organisation dedicated to the protection, preservation and promotion of historic vehicles and related culture, as well as their safe use. Since 2017, FIVA has been a non-governmental partner of UNESCO.

