

Tale #3: William E. Lyons (founder and architect of the Lyons Den Golf) or “Old Bill” as he was known in most circles was an accomplished golfer as well as a nationally renowned turfgrass mind.

Traveling the continent giving speeches and presentations on everything grass, was a standard practice for him.

In the year 2000 he received (post humous) international recognition from his peers as the **11th** greatest turf mind of all time.

He had been the superintendent at Firestone C.C. for 18 years before building the Lyons Den Golf.

Suffice to say for the point of this story, (in the golf world) he knew many interesting people and had been to many interesting places. So when his son Carl asked him in those early years of the Lyons Den Golf course “Dad, if there was just one course in the world that you could play where would it be?” it was understood that he had the resume to answer such a question with influence and experience.

“Old Bill’s” answer: **Banff Springs**

“Huh?” Carl would reply, having never heard of such a place. As do likely most of the readers of this story.

That’s right! Not Pebble Beach, Augusta National, St. Andrews, Carnoustie, Shinnecock or Oakmont. But **Banff Springs**: A resort town set high in the Canadian Rockies and built by the European elite at the turn of the century. Lured by the pleasures of hot springs and world class skiing they built their paradise and added to it some years later a golf course of such scenic beauty and wildlife experience that it has few rivals on earth.

“What are the chances of you and I playing it?” Carl would add.

“Someday. We’ll get there someday!” replied “Old Bill”.

And so the promise was hidden deep in the heart of a young turf student and golf prodigy.

But the years passed and soon it was December 1983. An aging father lay dying in a hospital bed, aware that he would never again step foot outside of that room when a young man’s heart (now lodged inside of a new father himself) spoke up and asked the already answered question:

“We’re not gonna make it to Banff are we dad?”

“It’s okay Boy. It’s okay. You take your son. And let him be my eyes!”

And then he was gone!

Fifteen years later during the month of August in the year of our Lord 1998 the dream was finally realized when Carl, Andy, and newlyweds Ron and Heidi traveled to Alberta Canada to find out what all the fuss was about.

What they experienced, no Spirit could be properly prepared:

(glaciers, mountain gondolas, blue water canyons and waterfalls, emerald lakes, quaint mountain towns, the Fairmont Banff Hotel, caves, the Bow river, the Luge at olympic park, Lake Louise, eagles, rams, elk, moose, and 2 unforgettable rounds of golf on God's perfect playground!)

What an amazing place!!! Some dreams do come true!

*****Click on the links below to experience a little of the Magic and hold your breath as the Lyons Family begins planning a large group excursion to take **YOU** back with them to Banff Springs very SOON!!!!

More info coming soon.....

[The Fairmont hotel at Banff Springs](#)

[Banff Springs Golf Club](#)

[The town of Banff](#)