

The Story of a Lefty with a Great Little Swing



French Lick Resort sets the stage for an unforgettable moment in time.

FRENCH LICK, INDIANA: The game of golf is like the game of life. Suddenly, we can run into unexpected challenges.

At first, the life story of Greg Puckett and his 13-year-old son, Grant, sounds familiar. Living a comfortable life in Kentucky, the two shared a common love of golf.

"Every couple of weeks, they would spend an afternoon together on our local course.

Grant has always been on the quiet side and excelled at golf. In seventh grade, he played on the high school's golf team," said Bobbie Puckett, Grant's mom.

Greg died suddenly. "He thought he had the flu and retired to bed early," emotionally mourned Bobbie. "By 3 A.M. he passed away. Grant, there with his dad, witnessed his final breath. Words can't describe the heartache watching my son's face."

The emotional toll has been profound. "I had to remain strong for Grant, but he could see my hurt. He came up to me, placed his hand on my hand and said, 'Mom, God wouldn't give us more than we can bear. It will be all right,'" said Bobbie in a cracked voice.

INDIAN SUMMER IN INDIANA

Grant found solace in golf.

"Winter was approaching and I could tell he was having a 'blue week.' With the weather forecast predicting warm and sunny skies, I decided to surprise him with a golf weekend at French Lick Resort," said Bobbie. "I thought it would be a good escape for us."

When they pulled into the French Lick Resort entranceway, both were impressed. "Mom, you said it would be nice, but this is *really* nice," said Grant.

On the first day, Grant played the Donald Ross design as a warm-up to the Pete Dye Course.

"Grant plays left-handed and has a great little swing," said Josh Lindsey, Grant's caddie during his round on the Pete Dye Course. "We hit it off immediately. The course is challenging and Grant was playing well. When he stepped up to the 16th tee, we hemmed and hawed over club selection. We must have selected the right club. After a perfect swing and one bounce, the ball landed in the hole. A hole in one is a rare occurrence, but for a 13-year-old junior golfer, it is even more so."

"Golf has been an important part of our healing process," concluded Bobbie. "I'm sure Greg was giving everyone in heaven a high-five that day...and for all we know, maybe he had a little something to do with it!" ■



FRENCH LICK RESORT, with two sister hotels—the West Baden Springs Hotel and the French Lick Springs Hotel—first welcomed guests in 1845. The AAA four-diamond property has invested over \$600 million in amenities, including the largest resort conference center in the Midwest, a full-service casino, two spas, the Kidsfest Lodge, a bowling alley, and 54-holes of golf. For more information on 2016 golf packages, please visit FrenchLick.com or call (888) 936-9360.