



“GOOGLE HAS CHANGED OUR WORLD and enabled so many things. Take Google Maps. It seems archaic, almost foreign, to pull out a paper map now. The mission statement at Google is unchanged from its early days: to organize the world’s information and make it universally accessible and useful.

“I was employee No. 5 at Google. We knew the company had incredible promise, but there’s never a guaranteed way to make good on that kind of promise! What we knew was that we had to work hard, push the limits, keep innovating, and take search technology as far and fast as possible.

“Google was a tiny startup, and we logged very long hours. In my very first week working, I pulled two all-nighters. One morning I actually fell asleep while riding my bike to work. My rude awakening was crashing onto the pavement and suffering some major road rash. I limped home, poured a hot bath, and took the day off. An important lesson there for me: no matter how driven you are in work or in life, breaks to replenish your resources are mandatory! There’s nothing wrong with working hard, but you also need to fit enough recovery time into your life that you can continue to be happy and productive.

“If you are contemplating a purchase here—or for that matter, anywhere—I suggest you do what I did when I evaluated my partnership with the Mehls. I talked with others, listened to their unbiased thoughts, and considered the pros and cons. Then I asked myself, ‘Is this a good fit for me? Is it a smart investment and will it make me happy?’ If, after the homework, the answer is ‘yes,’ you’re making the right decision.” – RAY SIDNEY

Tucson+Ritz-Carlton+Nicklaus

The Residences at The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain redefines desert living.

By Mark Pazdur, Publisher

MARANA, ARIZONA: (20 minutes north of Tucson): If you ask Google about itself by typing the word “google” into Google’s search box, it will indicate that your query has over 10 billion results. In less than 20 years, Google and its services have dramatically impacted almost every aspect of our lives and ushered us into a future that nobody could have foreseen.

Almost six years ago, Carson and David Mehl, developers of Dove Mountain, partnered with Ray Sidney. An engineer and mathematician (Harvard AB, MIT PhD, and UC Berkeley MBA), Sidney was a Google pioneer—after he started working as the second engineer hired, the company’s workforce numbered five (including founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page).

“During our initial meeting with Ray, we were touring the property on a stunningly beautiful day. Ray tossed his keys and cell phone aside, excused himself for a minute, and jumped down the pool’s water slide. At that moment, I realized he got it. This was a partner we wanted to be associated with,” recalled Carson Mehl.

A JOLT TO THE SENSES

Dove Mountain is a 6,200-acre development with 27 holes of Jack Nicklaus Signature golf, a Ritz-Carlton resort tucked back into a box canyon, and The Ritz-Carlton Residences. Homeowners at The Ritz-Carlton Residences enjoy all on-property hotel benefits including valet, concierge, private cooks, and optional housekeeping services.

The Ritz-Carlton Resort at Dove Mountain is one of only three Forbes “Five-Star” award winners among the 86 Ritz-Carlton hotels across America, and The Golf Club at Dove Mountain was home to the WGC Accenture Match Play Championship for six years.

“**My course is located** on one of the great saguaro cacti forests in the United States. If any cacti were in the playing corridors of the golf course, great care was taken to carefully remove and replant them. In the end, the saguaro helped give the golf course its personality.

Ritz-Carlton has a certain pizzazz associated with it. If you’re going to a Ritz-Carlton anywhere around the world, you pretty much know what to expect from a level of quality and service—just like a Nicklaus golf course.” – JACK NICKLAUS

“I like distinctive real estate projects in spectacular settings where a developer is able to design and build in harmony with nature,” said Sidney. “When I first set eyes on Dove Mountain, it was clear that that was exactly David Mehl’s vision. He took something raw and wild and made it into a place where people could live, play and recharge—he had done it while keeping the beauty of the land intact.”

Sidney didn’t grow up in the golf world. “I’m still waiting for the right summer when I have the time to learn to golf. In the meantime, one of my go-to sports is curling! And believe it or not, curling is actually a sister sport to golf—both sports originated in Scotland. When I curl, instead of reading greens, I am reading the ice.

“I’m an outdoors guy. When I worked at Google, one of my favorite escapes was to the evergreen forests of Lake Tahoe. Dove Mountain offers a different but equally compelling environment. Hiking amid the cacti and rugged mountains is a jolt to the senses,” continued Sidney.

ADOPT A SAGUARO PROGRAM

The business plan for The Ritz-Carlton Residences includes one directive seen all too infrequently at high-end developments. “Our residences demand the best, and that’s what we give them. Part of that is harmonizing with nature: to the extent possible, we limit our environmental footprint in the desert,” said Sidney. “A program specific to Dove Mountain is called ‘Adopt a Saguaro.’ We have spectacular cacti here, and when we develop a neighborhood, we contact our members to see who’s interested in ‘adopting’ a cactus and having it professionally moved to their property. We post pictures of transplanted cacti online, just like how people send out ‘just had a baby’ announcements! Programs like this make a difference in protecting our fragile desert ecosystem.” ■

For more information, please phone (877) 451-7205, or visit TheResidencesDoveMountain.com.