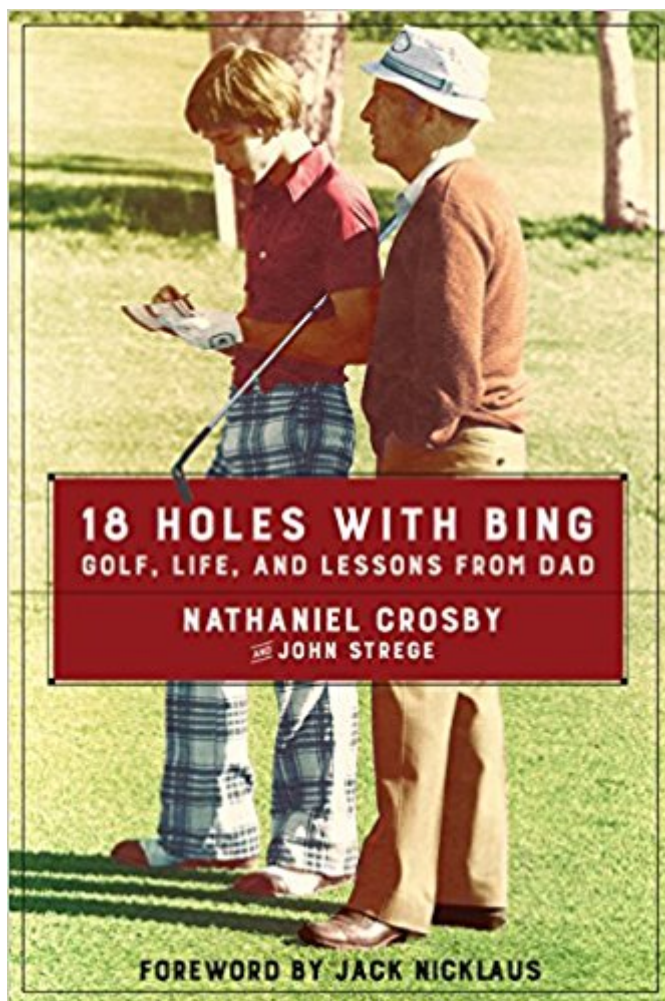


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18 Holes With Bing: Golf, Life, And Lessons From Dad



Synopsis

In this love letter to his father, former professional golfer Nathaniel Crosby shares memories of Bing Crosby on the golf course, and the lessons he taught him about the game and about life. With a Foreword by Jack Nicklaus. “Bing Crosby was a great ambassador for our game, as well as a great man,” hails longtime friend and golf partner, Jack Nicklaus. The beloved singer and star was also an extraordinary teacher who instilled an abiding passion and mastery of the game in his youngest son, Nathaniel. Winning the US Amateur at nineteen, Nathaniel went on to compete in high-level professional tournaments for his entire life. In *18 Holes with Bing*, Nathaniel introduces us to the Bing Crosby he and his family knew—not the beloved singer who played golf, but a golfer who sang to pay his country club dues. Nathaniel shares exclusive stories about this American icon golfing, working, and playing with some of the most famous people in history—royalty, titans of industry, stars of stage and screen, and champions of the green, including Bob Hope, Dwight Eisenhower, Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus, and Louis Armstrong. At the book’s heart is an intimate account of a father and a son—how a mutual love of golf formed an exceptional emotional bond. Full of anecdotes, vignettes, and recollections of Bing’s time on the course, the tournaments he created and later sponsored, and the constant encouragement he showed his son, *18 Holes with Bing* honors this celebrated golfer, entertainer, and father, and illuminates his life as never before.

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Dey Street Books (May 3, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062414283

ISBN-13: 978-0062414281

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #393,274 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #77 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoors > Golf #174 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Essays #464 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Golf

Customer Reviews

“An engaging account of how father and son bonded over a sport Bing Crosby pursued with

gusto until the day he died. • The Washington Post For decades, Bing Crosby was America's most beloved icon. He was also golf's greatest friend. In this touching memoir, Bing Crosby's son Nathaniel pays tribute to his father in eighteen enlightening stories, shedding light on our perception of Bing the singer, and describing how he was, to Nathaniel and many others alike, Bing the golfer. Full of stories and entertaining anecdotes of Bing Crosby's time on the course, the tournaments he created and later sponsored, and the lessons he shared with his son through the game, this book offers a new glimpse of a man and of a time in the golden era of Hollywood: Bing's years entertaining troops throughout the war, his famous friends of stage and screen, his golf and entertainment tours throughout Europe, and, most of all, the humbleness with which America's greatest star played America's greatest pastime. 18 Holes with Bing is a collection of memories of a father and son on the golf course, and the lessons, about the game and about life, that Bing imparted. In it, Nathaniel Crosby introduces a whole new generation to his father, and showcases never-before-told stories of father and son and the unique sport that bonded them. Bing Crosby, or Dad as he was known to me, was the most popular entertainer in the world in his day, a day that lasted the better part of five decades. Yet everything he accomplished in the entertainment field was a distant second to what animated him most: golf. As my mother so aptly described HIM many years ago, Bing Crosby was a golfer who sang.

Nathaniel Crosby won the United States Amateur Championship in 1981, is a former European Tour player, and was host of the Bing Crosby National Pro-Am for eight years. He played in three Masters, the United States Open, two British Opens, and on winning World Amateur and Walker Cup teams. He is the former president of Toney Penna Golf and grew two major golf manufacturing companies, Nicklaus Golf Equipment Company and Orlimar Golf, to substantial levels. He is currently the founder and president of AppleTree Management Group, the managing company of AppleTree Golf Society that is coordinating thirty private golf clubs into an ultra-affluent golf membership program. He lives in Jupiter, Florida with his wife, Sheila, and their six children. John Strege is the author of five books, including *When War Played Through*, which won the United States Golf Association's Herbert Warren Wind Book Award in 2005, and the bestselling *Tiger: A Biography of Tiger Woods*. He has covered golf for more than thirty years, and now writes for *Golf Digest*. He lives in San Diego with his wife, Marlene, and daughter, Hannah, in San Diego, California.

I completely agree with Nathaniel's position the the names of the founders of ground-breaking tournaments should still be used. The game of golf has become so commercialized - it irritates me to hear announcers talk about the 40th (or whatever the right number is) of the ANA, for example. Golf and pros currently owe a tremendous debt to not only Arnold Palmer, but Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dinah Shore and the rest. Current day pros should be playing these tournaments out of respect.

A wonderful walk through the golden age of entertainment and golf seen through the penultimate eye witness. Akin to 'The Match' in terms of the romantic game that has been the siren call to millions. But the book goes far beyond the game itself in describing how Bing Crosby inspired a transition bringing a passion of the few on to the main stage. The big bonus is the additional element of family, especially that special bond between fathers and sons, interwoven throughout. A must read for any true golf aficionado.

This book was very enjoyable and enlightening. It was difficult to put down. In high school I was lucky enough to play a couple of the courses haunted by Mr. Crosby. I agree with his son that the tournaments initiated by the founders should bear their names in perpetuity. My only criticism is that there seemed to be an inordinate amount of repetition; yet, repetition I didn't mind.

I have never been interested in golf, but I wanted to read about Bing Crosby from a family perspective and get some insight about the man behind the voice. I was not disappointed. I ended up liking the real Bing and his son . A good read and I also learned about the politics behind golf. Now that I am older, I have realized that everything may have an unseen background story.

A loving portrait by Nathaniel Crosby about his special relationship with his famous dad and their mutual love for golf. Nathaniel, who lost his dad, Bing right before his 16th birthday has created a special portrait of being raised by a legend. A perfect father's day gift!!!

good

I read the book with a bit of nostalgia as I remember Bing Crosby growing up in the 1960's. He was still a great big star. Nathaniel Crosby told this story with love and respect and I enjoyed it, thoroughly . I gave the book 5 stars!

VERY different.

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