It's all in the family for Jones who would argue with that assessment. Rees Jones graduated in 1930 from a self-designed course at Cornell University that prepared him for a career in the then relatively new field of golf course architecture. By the mid-1960s he was the best-known architect in the world. He had designed more than 400 courses in 42 states and 23 countries by 1980. An author of numerous essays and articles, he has received many awards including the American Society of Golf Course Architects' first Donald Ross Award for outstanding contributions in the field of course architecture.

Age 83, he is still one of the most active practitioners of his craft, logging hundreds of thousands of air miles annually. He currently has 15 projects in the works and recently returned from a two-week, nine-country tour of Europe.

The elder Jones was a tough act for sons Robert Jr., 50, and Rees, 48, to follow. But they did, and quite successfully. Bobby graduated from Yale University and joined his father's firm, Robert Trent Jones Inc., in 1960. He eventually took over the California office, becoming responsible for the business' Western United States and Pacific Basin interests before establishing his own Robert Trent Jones II Group in 1972.

He became known as an artist who blended his courses with the environment, Spanish Bay Golf Links in Pebble Beach and Spanish Bay Golf Course in Wisconsin are two excellent examples of those efforts. Rees likewise attended Yale and did graduate work at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.

He went to work for his father in 1964, becoming involved in the design or construction of 50 courses and taking over the East Coast office before striking out on his own in 1974.

"I was born and bred to design golf courses and I had the two best teachers in the business," said P.B. Dye, son of Pete and Alice Dye.

Pete, the elder statesman of the Dye clan, could make the same claim. His father, Paul, designed and built Urbana CC in the 1920s. "He played golf and was very interested in the outdoors," remembered Pete of his father. "But it was a hobby for him, so I never looked to golf (course architecture) as a profession."

It wasn't until the late 1950s that Pete left a successful insurance career to become a full-time architect. Today five Dyes (Pete, Alice, sons P.B. and Perry and Pete's brother Roy) are in the business.

Pete, 64, in the patriarch and the name most people know in the male-dominated world of golf course architecture. But Alice, 62, has had a hand in nearly all of Pete's designs.

"I'll be working all day on a bunker and she'll come by around 3 or 4 p.m. and say, 'Why did you do this or that?' It helps to have someone you have tremendous respect for take a fresh look at things. Usually what I've done is easy to modify and I'll make the change," said Pete.

Pete and Alice met while both were attending Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla. They were married in 1950 and moved to her hometown of Indianapolis.

Both embarked on successful insurance careers and worked on their golf games. Pete won the 1958 Indiana men's amateur and twice finished second. Alice became a legend, claiming seven Indiana amateur titles, three Florida amateur titles, five Western Senior championships and two USGA Women's Senior Amateur Championships.

Alice left the insurance business in 1962 to raise their family. Pete continued until 1999.

Rees is also a writer, co-authoring the influential Urban Land Institute publication "Golf Course Developments" along with landscape architect Guy L. Rando. He is perhaps best known for his renovation of the Country Club at Brookline, Mass., site of last year's U.S. Open men's championship, Haig Point GC on Daufuskie Island in South Carolina and Pinehurst No. 7, which he also received very favorable recognition.

"They've done some very good work," said their father. "Most of it has followed along my basic principles."

Rees said there was little pressure for him and Bobby to follow in their father's footsteps. Their entry into the trade resulted from being around the business, even during vacations that were often spent at the sites of their father's courses. Bill Baldwin, one of his father's construction foremen, spent a great deal of time with the younger Joneses, becoming almost a second father, according to Rees.

The youngest Joneses believe the most important lesson he learned from his father was controlling not only the design end, but also the construction phase of a project. Thus all three have their own design and construction employees.

"You have to do that or you don't come up with what you're after," said Robert Sr. "That's the hardest part, transferring the idea from the architect to the builder and having it come out to the satisfaction of most everyone," agreed Rees.

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George Fazio's missed putt on the final regulation hole of the 1950 U.S. Open may have been the biggest break of his nephew Tom's life. "If he'd made that putt it wouldn't have gone to a playoff and (Ben) Hogan wouldn't have beaten him," remembered Tom. "Winning that tournament might have changed his career. He might not have gotten into golf course architecture which meant I probably wouldn't have either. Having him miss that shot might have been the best thing that ever happened to me."

George, who died in 1986, might disagree. But he'd still get a chuckle out of his nephew's assessment. Despite his overtime 1950 loss to Hogan, George had a successful playing career, winning the 1946 Canadian Open and finishing 6th in the 1952 and fourth in the 1953 U.S. Opens. He was a resident pro at several courses, including Pine Valley, before turning to architecture in 1959. Tom's older brother, Jim, joined George's firm in 1961. The pair did the bulk of their early work in the Philadelphia area.

Tom, who weeded greens summers and washed dishes in the clubhouse winters while growing up and working at George's Pennsylvania club, came on board a year later at age 17. "Golf was always a part of the family. I never thought about doing anything else, never considered doing anything else, never did anything else and never intend to do anything else," said Tom, whose father was a pro at a Pennsylvania club.

At left, George Fazio makes a design point to young nephew Tom. Above is Jim Fazio today.

George's firm in 1961. The pair did the bulk of their early work in the Philadelphia area.

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Dyes

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railroad tie bulkheads and deep native roughs — into their own style. Many of those characteristics can be seen on Pete's better-known courses, including Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic, The Golf Club in Columbus, Ohio, Harbour Town Golf Links on Hilton Head Island and the original Tournament Players Club at Ponte Vedra, Fla.

Roy Dye, Pete's younger brother and a chemical engineer by trade, left that field and joined Pete's design practice in 1969. Roy worked with Pete on several projects before opening his own business, which is located in Carefree, Ariz.

Sons Perry, 37, and P.B. (Paul Burke), 34, became involved with the game and architecture at an early age. "I had a golf club in my hand for the first time when I was 4 and was on a tractor at 7."

"I've been on a golf course every day I wasn't in school since," remembered P.B., who now runs his own firm, P.B. Dye Inc., in West Palm Beach, Fla. "They were running the equipment as soon as they were old enough to reach the pedals," said Alice.

"That experience helped them. It's so important in this business to know what equipment can do."

P.B., like his parents, runs a relatively small-scale operation that has concentrated its work in the United States.

"We basically work out of a suitcase," said Alice, who, with Pete, generally has no more than one or two projects going at a time. Pete estimates he has designed 70 courses in 25 years. P.B., who shares an office with a contractor, said he prefers to have no more than 10 fires in the iron at once and is most comfortable with about six.

P.B.'s first collaboration with his father was Long Cove Club on Hilton Head, voted among America's top 100 courses by Golf Digest magazine just two years after it opened.

The Honors Course near Chattanooga, Tenn., another joint venture with Pete, was

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some clans in design

Fazio brothers continue tradition

In the early days the Fazios dealt in turnkey operations, designing and building a course that was turned over to the owner ready for play. Courses were built for about $10,000 a hole, a far cry from the millions spent on today's links.

If course those weren't the same courses we have today. We didn't build cart paths. We didn't install irrigation systems. We didn't use sod. We didn't have USGA spec greens. We didn't move the same amount of earth.

"We did like they did around the turn of the century: look for a good piece of land to put a golf course on. Today you can put a course just about anywhere, it's just a question of dollars. You can create something from nothing," said Tom, referring to Shadow Creek, a Fazio-designed course recently forged out of the Nevada desert near Las Vegas.

Money is the biggest change in the game over the past 20 years, agreed Jim.

"There's too much of it, today," he said. "Something like 47 of the top 100 courses in the country were built before 1940, and I'll bet none of them cost over $100,000."

"Today it costs six, eight, 10, 20 million dollars. It's a crime. But each developer wants his course to be better than the last one. Anything beyond the rough line is just an added expense to the golfer. All the rest is just eyewash."

The Fazios' early-1960s construction costs often exceeded, sometimes by hundreds of thousands of dollars, the $180,000 they charged buyers. But George was willing to absorb the financial setbacks in order to learn the business. Fortunately he had off-setting income from several other courses he owned and an automobile business he operated, said Tom.

Jimmy Demaret, a former pro golfer and good friend of George's, got the Fazios involved in their first out-of-state project years ago with sons Perry, left, and P.B.

Golf Digest's best new private course of 1984. Now on his own, P.B. is concentrating on developing affordable, public courses.

Perry, on the other hand, employs about 120 at Denver-based Dye Designs Inc.

A graduate of the University of Denver's real estate marketing program, he has designed and built courses throughout the world.

Perry and his father co-designed the TPC at Palm Creek near Castle Rock, Colo.

Perry is one of the better-known developers in Japan, where his work has received substantial publicity and current president of the Golf Course Builders of America.

"We're just two different people," said P.B. "Perry's an excellent promoter and helps keep a lot of people working. I like to keep things smaller and get more involved with the building itself."

"I told him I'll take everything east of the Mississippi River and he can have everything to the west, including the rest of the world." The Dyes rarely collaborate on course designs now that banks no longer need to see the Pete Dye name next to his sons' before providing financing.

"Designing a golf course is like painting. You don't want someone else adding brush strokes. We might discuss ideas. But each of us does our own thing," said Alice.

Alice sees similar architectural styles between parents and sons, and is especially pleased with her offsprings' placement of forward tees, an aspect of course design she has long championed.

But there are differences. For instance, the sons may design an 8-foot bunker that is difficult enough to climb out of, let alone hit out of, said Alice.

"Their work is much more severe. Pete may suggest they downplay it a little. But they don't listen. Kids are kids," chuckled Alice.

Growing up with Pete and Alice, Perry developed a taste for the classic designs of the old Scottish courses that first attracted their parents.

"If anything, they have a harder time letting go of the past than me," said Pete.

A younger Alice Dye with one of her many golfing trophies.