

Price, right, and Love had close ties to victims of Sept. 11.

The rebuilding continues ... And golf is a big part of the process at Sandler O'Neill

By Tim Rosaforte – GolfWorld.com exclusive

(Sept. 10) -- They have done a thousand outings in their careers stood on a tee on a golf course on a Monday, hit shots all day long, shook the hands, slapped the backs, and headed to the airport after heavy appetizers and an awards ceremony. But on this Monday at Deepdale GC on Long Island, three of the nicest guys in golf dedicated a day to a Wall Street firm that was decimated but not destroyed by the genocide at the World Trade Center last September 11. They don't want a pat on the back for it, but they are going to get one. Nick Price, Davis Love III and Gary Koch had their connections with Sandler O'Neill, and the money they helped generate went to the secondary educations of 70 children who lost their mother or father in the South Tower a year ago. As Love said, "I'd have paid them to come and play if they asked me to." As proof, he won the silent auction for a Mickey Mantle baseball. These tour pros brought clubs and bags that made some money, but most of all they brought themselves "because it is our duty and obligation," said Love. "Our way to give back to the game." Yes, athletes that want to give something back. A novel concept, isn't it?

