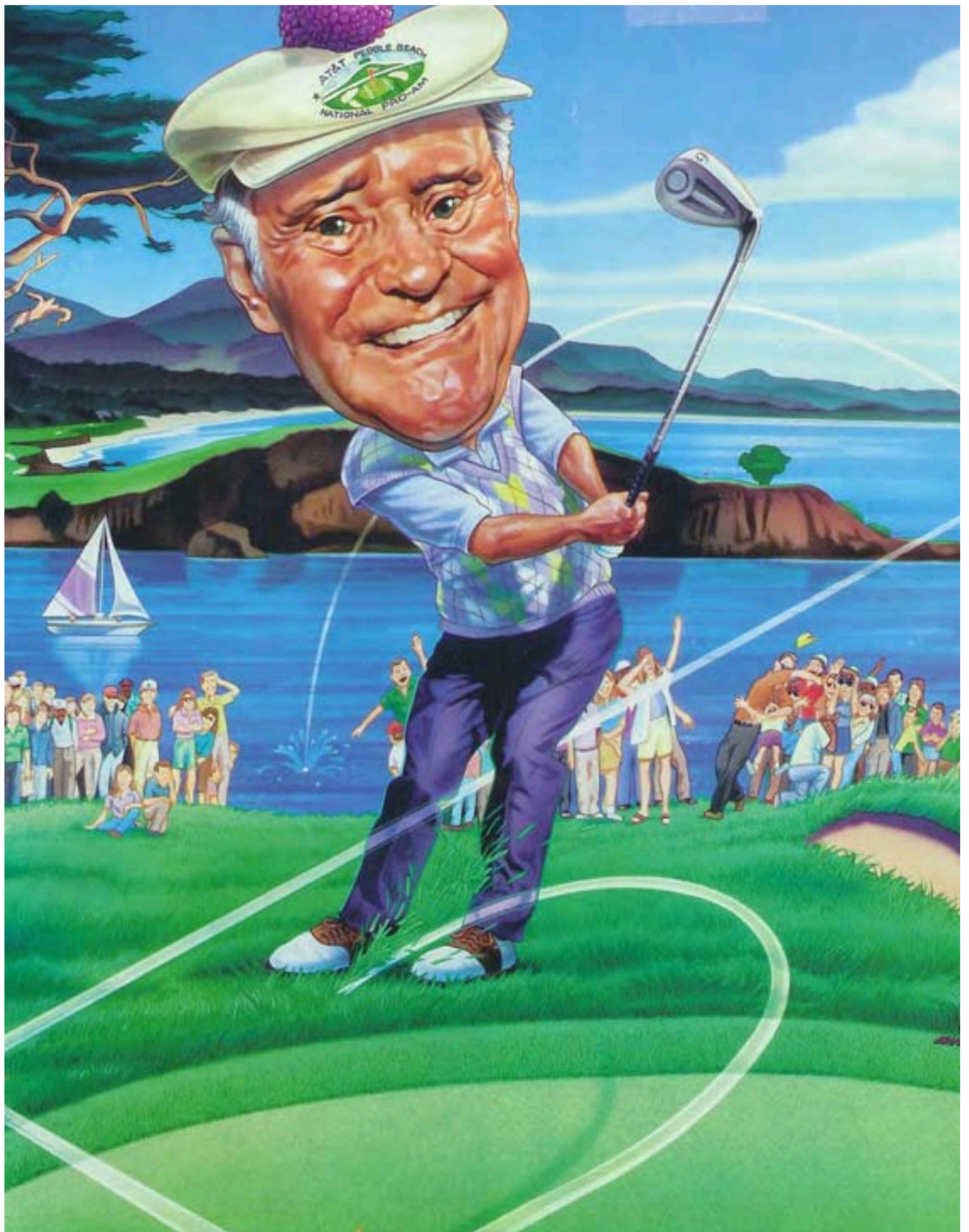


AMERICA WEST

A I R L I N E S M A G A Z I N E



SANTA FE
NOVEMBER 2000



OF **BAGGER VANCE** AND **MOVIE MULLIGANS**,

MATTHAU AND MORTALITY,

PEBBLE BEACH AND MAKING THE CUT. . .

A CONVERSATION WITH

JACK LEMMON

JACK LEMMON is 75, but probably the hardest role for him to play on a daily basis is “acting” his age. Lemmon is so full of spunk and levity that when he discusses upcoming film projects and golf outings, you’d think he was a neophyte at both passions.

But once a man reaches his eighth decade, reminders of mortality are never far off. In his latest film, *The Legend of Bagger Vance*, Lemmon plays an elderly doctor and avid golfer who’s had 10 heart attacks. (The movie, which opens this month, is directed by Robert Redford and stars Matt Damon and Will Smith.) Just this year, Lemmon received a Golden Globe Award and an Emmy Award for his portrayal of Morrie Schwartz—a wise old professor bravely facing his last weeks of life—in *Tuesdays with Morrie*. And earlier this year, he lost his acting sidekick and best friend, Walter Matthau.

“I try to learn from everything,” Lemmon says. “There are lessons in the characters I choose to play, and certainly there’s much to be learned from a great guy like Matthau. We all met recently to honor Walt at a memorial service, and everyone was smiling. That’s what he was all about.” >

BY JACK E. SHEEHAN

ILLUSTRATION BY GREG JOHANNES