

New Mexico Ski Hall of Fame

2015



Benny Abruzzo



Benny Abruzzo was born in Albuquerque in 1958 and attended Eldorado High School and the University of New Mexico. His father, Ben Abruzzo, was the president of Sandia Peak Ski Area and Sandia Peak Tram Company and Benny was involved with skiing early on.

After the untimely death of his parents in 1985, Benny took over as owner and operator of both Sandia Peak Ski Area and Ski Santa Fe; the two ski areas closest to the largest population base in New Mexico. Benny and his Ski Schools at both areas have created an entry point for most of the skiers and snowboarders in the state. His involvement with the KOAT Learn to Ski Program over the last 24 years has cultivated many a winter sports enthusiast who, without this program, would not have had access to the sport. In addition, Benny has created other discount ski and ride programs and discount passes to keep winter sports affordable and accessible at Sandia Peak and Ski Santa Fe.

Passion for winter sports is probably the most accurate way to describe Benny and what he brings to the New Mexico Ski Industry. Passion is what it takes to operate two ski areas with the snow and water challenges in the Southwest.

Benny is an avid outdoorsman skiing or snowboarding every day of the winter season. Benny also excels at ice climbing, rock climbing, para gliding, skinning and water skiing and was involved in many facets of his father's and brother Richard's many ballooning adventures. He is also a partner in the Northern Escape Heli-Skiing Company of British Columbia, Canada. Creating skiers and snowboarders along with his passion for the industry and for winter sports has influenced how he manages his business and his life.

Benny is married to Sandra Daneman Abruzzo and has two sons, Benjamin and Dane. Benny was inducted into the New Mexico Ski Hall of Fame in 2015.

