



Leaving a *Legacy*



A wish list is fulfilled in this Craftsman home

*By Merrie Sue Holtan
Photos by Bryan Wendland*

One of the priority items on the homeowner's wish list was "windows everywhere." Nowhere is it more evident than the lake side of the home where you can sit inside (or out) and enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of this lake retreat.

In 2013, Paula Boehm, sat and listened to an area property owner's mission, vision and dreams for a Craftsman-style home. She nodded, leaned in, made notes and listened attentively. Paula, co-owner of Paul Davis in Detroit Lakes, whose full service firm does design, builds, remodels and restorations, says her client spoke of a personal life full of ups and downs, great sorrows and great joys.

Paula listened some more.

How could a house capture memories, help with healing and serve as a gathering ground for generations to come? Paula compiled the owner's wish list, and told her, "Yes. We can make that happen."



RESTORE OR REBUILD?

A non-negotiable request included a family space where all family, even those grandchildren not yet born, would love to come and be together. The 60-foot sandy beach lakeshore lot runs 210 feet deep to the back with a backlot across the road. On the original lot, were a home built in 1967 and a newer garage constructed in the late nineties. The first decision was whether to keep the existing structure and remodel or to tear it down and build a new home.

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“We figured we could salvage the old structure if it ‘had good bones.’” Paula says. “When our team went to inspect the property, they found ‘not good’ bones and a cement block foundation, which could not be salvaged. The right decision was to start new.”

Upon further inspection, the Paul Davis team discovered unstable topsoil under the existing home. In order to build, the soil had to be removed and replaced with new soil. This only reaffirmed that a new structure needed to be built. Paul Davis co-owner, Jeff Boehm, who attended



Warm-toned, clean-lined cabinetry, doors and millwork unify the spaces. Light fixtures, both inside and out, echo the Mission style of the Craftsman era. The cool tone of the wall color offers a wonderful contrast to the color of the stone and the darker wood finishes used throughout the home.

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the county variance meeting on behalf of the owner and shared, “The county determined the house had to have a deeper setback from the shoreline, so we lifted the garage and moved it back 20 feet, then built the new home and attached it to the garage.”

THE PLAN – A CRAFTSMAN’S STYLE HOME

Other wish list items for the home included windows “everywhere” to make it bright and sunny with “everywhere” views of the lake. The home needed to be maintenance free, a place to leave your shoes on, and efficient; with valuable but hidden storage spaces.

“As a result, we went over every detail, the pros and cons of everything for our client,” Paula says. “It had to be a blend of form and function. It needed to have practical elegance.”

Perham architect, Kelli Wegscheid of Harmonious Architecture, created the original blue prints for the new home. “Our client did not want a huge home,” says Wegscheid. “The original single-story cabin was 780 square feet. The finished home is around 1250 square feet and only four feet wider than the original.”

Mike Lovelace from Paul Davis believes they did a great job working with the existing footprint to use every square inch of space. Nothing is wasted. The layout of the house makes it feel bigger than it actually is.

“We did alter a couple things from the original design,” Mike says. “One was the elevation, and the other involved changing the dormer roofs from shed to gable and adding an extra bathroom upstairs.”

The red roof asphalt shingled house with peaks and valleys along the roof line, lets the light shine through all around with vinyl Thermo-Tech windows. In a difficult to access area with no view, a textured rainfall glass was used for the sole purpose of letting in natural light. An array of Hardie Board siding in shades of cream, green, tan and cottage white was used on the exterior.

“We pushed our client a bit out of her comfort zone in encouraging a variety of color options other than beige,” Paula says with an affectionate laugh. “She is thrilled with her choices.”

COLOR ME BEIGE

The homeowner’s permanent residence had always been shades of beige, which was the requested color for each room in the new lake home. The Paul Davis team put together a color pallet using all the colors, materials and patterns the owner enjoyed and showed how it looked combined.

“The wall color Silvermist by Sherwin Williams, became the soothing center for all other color decisions,” says Jessie Matykiewicz, from Paul Davis. “Silvermist covers every wall of the home with accents of Duck White, Burnt Sugar and Pearl white to add visual interest in contrasts and repetition.”

Lighting fixtures by Ferguson’s in Fargo and natural daylight vary the Silvermist shade in each room. The house was built as a slab on grade with hydronic heat below the slab. The team suggested ceramic plank





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LAKE RULES
NO SCHEDULE
PADDLE THE CANOE
CATCH A FISH
SKIP A ROCK
TAKE A WALK
SWIM, SOAK & PLAY
RELAX & UNWIND
GATHER AROUND THE FIRE
EAT S'MORES
WISH ON STARS
ENJOY FAMILY & FRIENDS
MAKE MEMORIES
TAKE IN EACH MOMENT

tile by Mohawk, in a toasted walnut finish to give the look of natural wood. This choice was a better option than wood or laminate, which is not as stable as tile on a heated slab. In addition, tile is more durable for all the wet and sandy feet coming in from the lake.

In the kitchen, knotty alder cabinets stained in Burnt Sugar and

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Cambria quartz countertops surround the General Electric appliances, the walk-in pantry, and the island – straight from the wish list of the owner. The home’s lighter pine ceilings provide contrast to the darker stained woodwork. Ceiling fans in the high places help to heat and cool the home along with central air conditioning.

LEFT: The home’s kitchen showcases its Craftsman style. The cabinet doors with their clean lines, tall height, warm tone and cup pulls look as if they could have been original to a Craftsman-era bungalow. RIGHT: The narrow lot and setback requirements dictate the approach to the home but visitors know immediately that this gem is rooted in the past.



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THE STAR OF THE SHOW

The vaulted ceiling in the living room peaks at about 22 feet, where a Montana ledge stone gas fireplace rises from floor to ceiling.

"Finding this stone was a challenge," says Jessie. "We needed something to compliment the clean-lined feel of the home yet maintain a natural look. The stone's Leather Brown color creates a beautiful contrast to the cooler sea tone on the walls."

The fireplace's chunky cedar mantel, which was hand sawn by an Amish craftsman, functions as the centerpiece in the living room. Lighter colored bookshelves and photo shelves line each side of the fireplace also offering storage places for games and books.

The home also includes a bonus bedroom/TV room lofted above the garage and two guest rooms. The master bedroom offers privacy with its pocket doors, sound insulated internal walls, and lined remote controlled shade window coverings. The laundry/office area is a drop zone for a digital plugged-in desk and serves as a portal for guests to plug in their phones, iPad and laptops at the same time.

The family gathered for the first time at the new lake home on Memorial Day 2014. It has been an emotional ride for the owner, who wants to create a "memory site" for the family. They will have looked out over the same lake view for decades past, and now too for decades to come.

"Our client's goal was to create a place where the entire family could gather," Kelli says. She and the Paul Davis staff listened to the owner's wishes and helped make decisions for the future as a team.

"It is a very livable home," Paula says. "There's some truth to the statement that a place, bricks and mortar, can be healing. This home will leave a legacy for generations to come." ~L&H

An open railing on the upper level offers a view of the living room and its Montana ledge stone fireplace rising twenty two feet to the wood clad vaulted ceiling.



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