

My husband and I have been married for over forty-five years and were beginning to feel something was missing from our life experience together. After a little brainstorming, we concluded that we had somehow managed to avoid the dreaded build a new home chapter in our story. We had heard all the terrible tales about that being the ultimate challenge to the strength of your marriage, but decided to try it anyway. Our search for the style of home we would both appreciate led us to Hammock Bay and the homes built by Luke & Blues. After walking through the model homes, we were sold! Everything was right; style, detailing, colors, high ceilings, porches, all the things that we wanted were wrapped up in one package. We obtained the contact information for the builder and made a call to set up an appointment.

From our first meeting on February 28, 2008 until receiving the keys on March 21, 2009, our association with Deron Strickman has been outstanding. This is not to say that the entire building experience was without a few hitches. But to coin the overused phrase, Deron was part of the solution for every problem that popped up. His network of contacts is very impressive, and everyone we met throughout the construction was topnotch. Deron told us from the beginning that the extent of our involvement in the project was up to us; he welcomed our participation, but if we wanted to just turn it over to him entirely he would present us with a home that would exceed our expectations.

Deron had numerous house plans for our consideration and we decided on the one that we had never seen. It sounded like, and from the sketches, looked like it had all the basics and much more and Deron promised to deliver a home that had all the amenities plus the "Wow" factor. After talking it over, my husband and I decided to go for it, and started the ball rolling. As I mentioned at the beginning, we have been married for a long time, so that automatically makes us members of the older generation. That also means we are beginning to need a few medical tune-ups, so our actual start date for building was delayed by several months.

On September 16, 2008 the prep work for the foundation started, the slab was poured on October 9 and framing started on the 20th. Once the construction began, there was something happening nearly every day. Even though the building was going on during the busiest holiday season of the year, Deron's crew was always reliable. As a professional builder, Deron has developed business relationships with a comprehensive group of carpenters, tradesmen, suppliers, etc. and this network guaranteed that the right person and materials was available to keep the construction on schedule and within budget.

I think Deron's personality is an intangible asset that can not be overlooked when discussing the overall success of the building project. He really listens to you, remembers, and ensures the ideas and details you expressed are incorporated into the finished product. My husband turned the building of our new home over to me, and I had complete faith in Deron's ability to make sure I didn't goof up the

assignment. He has a real gift of tact and diplomacy, and an incredible eye for detail. So, with his expertise and input, our new home is an absolute showplace. And the “Wow” factor I mentioned earlier, everyone, without exception that has entered our front door, has stopped and just stood in the foyer saying “Wow”.

We are fortunate to have a son, Michael that is incredibly talented in the area of high tech gadgets. He installed a “construction cam” that provided us with real time coverage for the entire building project. We were living miles away from the actual building site, but could log in at anytime to check on the daily progress. Michael also made this site available to Deron, enabling him to keep a long-distance eye on the jobsite. Since Deron’s truck was often the first one to arrive, I don’t think he had many opportunities to do remote spot checks. In keeping with his hands-on philosophy, Deron spent a great deal of time at the construction site, and was “on-camera” quite often.

Bottom line of a very lengthy testimonial: We would highly recommend Deron Strickman as a builder. His level of professionalism is impeccable. Although he was involved in the construction of several homes at the time we were having ours built, we never got that “take a number” impression. He was able to successfully manage multiple home building projects and yet we were always able to reach him with any thoughts or concerns regarding our new home. Deron makes himself available, his communication skills and practices are remarkable. Unlike so many people, if you call Deron, he calls you back at his earliest opportunity.

If we should ever decide to build another home, Deron would be our only choice as the builder. We have already shared his web address with friends who have expressed an interest in building in this area so they can check out our home. And, even viewed on a website, the photos of the finished product have invariably elicited the “Wow” response.

Sincerely,

Joy and Steve Kenyon