



BUENA VISTA
living spaces
Photos by Oddslot

Award-Winning New Construction Home in Buena Vista

The home at the intersection of Reynolds Drive and Pine Valley Road is finally complete and it has a name – Iron Horse. Retired Navy Admiral John Morgan and his wife, Jo Anna, built the house. The Morgans wanted the home to have a legacy even though it is brand new, so they decided to name it after the Sonoma California winery where they were married almost 20 years ago. Amidst the many remarkable features of the house is a large stone incorporated into the driveway, which bears the Iron Horse logo.

An old renovated farmhouse in Sequoia, Georgia, inspired the exterior of the house, but once inside, the house is decidedly nontraditional and reflects the owners' desire for clean, open space. Matthew Rodda of Steele Group Architects provided the architectural design of

the house. Rodda worked closely with the owners to customize the design of the house around a few treasured pieces of art and a baby grand piano.

A freestanding wall with copper-toned porcelain tiles sets the stage in the entry foyer, which features the piano, a large painting of an elephant standing in wild grasses, and a transparent double fireplace. The presence of copper is a recurring motif emphasized throughout the home.

The accent lights by the front door and the lamp post light in the driveway have copper fixtures. Beyond the entry foyer wall is an open great room and kitchen with timber beams joined by raw metal cross ties. Once the metal cross ties were fabricated, the design team, led by June DeLugas of June DeLugas Interiors, decided to seal the metal in its natural



JoAnna and John Morgan

state rather than paint them. The metal stair rails leading down to the basement are also in their raw state, giving the metal a more industrial look.

The Morgans wanted to use locally salvaged steel I-beams in the kitchen



June DeLugas and Don Hamrick

and dining island, an unusual request for sure. Steve Womble stepped up to the challenge and transformed the old beams into a frame for the cook top as well as the support for a glass island countertop. Leigh Ann Alexander of June DeLugas Interiors used her artistic talent to achieve an old rusted look by using a product called Aqua Stone to paint the metal beams.

Don Hamrick of Custom Homes by Hamrick built the iconic home. The Morgans chose Hamrick because of his Energy Star qualifications, and his close attention to detail. The home was entered into the Home Builders Association of Winston-Salem's Parade of Homes competition in October, and Hamrick took home the Platinum award, scoring 499 points out of a possible 500.

The newly constructed energy-efficient home was capped off by an extensive landscaping plan. The landscape in the front of the house features a beautiful Japanese maple transplanted from their former home as a tribute to Jo Anna's father. Buster Moore took custody of the Japanese maple while the house was under construction, and it was successfully transplanted in October where it is now thriving.

The Morgans wanted to build a home designed to live the way they live day to day, and be a great place to entertain friends and family. They moved to Winston-Salem after their Navy adventure so that Jo Anna could be close to her family, all of whom live in or around Winston-Salem.

A great team of professionals working together resulted in the culmination of this magnificent project the Morgans now call home. They couldn't be happier to have their vision complete and settled in and living in Buena Vista.

