

M I C H I G A N HOME *lifestyle*



R. VanDyke Building & Remodeling

Randy and Josh VanDyke
Building with Passion, Experience, Vision

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SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN HOME

Perfectly Situated

R. VanDyke Building & Remodeling

PERFECTLY SITUATED

A Nod to History and a Plan for the Future Pair Beautifully



2010
Parade of Homes
Tour Award
of Excellence

BY KAREN VANDER WERP
PHOTOS BY CRAIG WATSON

father's handiwork is showcased in glass. The home sits on its original foundation. The combination of old and new, treasures and must-haves work beautifully to create the perfect retirement home.

Existing fieldstone walls with new brick and cedar shake create a softly rustic exterior that perfectly complements its surroundings. From the start, the strategy was to preserve the original footprint of the house while accentuating some of the features of the lot. For Sue and Jerry, living on a private lake in Mattawan was unexpected. "I had always dreamed of living on a lake," shares the homeowner, Sue.

It was actually Jerry's Grandfather, along with three partners, who purchased the farmland abundant with grape vines, trees and lake frontage. They platted it, wisely protecting much of its natural habitat by restricting development to a small area. Jerry has fond childhood memories of the time he spent there. An unexpected turn of events gave Sue and Jerry ownership to a house three doors from Jerry's Grandfather. They purchased the home in 1984 and replaced the windows shortly after the purchase. This was their first professional contact with builder Randy VanDyke.

After raising their family, the couple relocated to the East Coast and the house was rented for eight years. However, in 2008, with Jerry's retirement on the horizon, the waterfront location became the ideal setting for a remodeled and expanded residence to better accommodate their lifestyle.

The conceptual phase lasted a year and a half. "It is better to re-sketch and re-do so that the plan is thoroughly completed," states VanDyke.

The inspiration for the renovation was having a home large enough to accommodate children and grandchildren. The house was taken down to the basement, maintaining its perfect position on the lot. New plans encompassed large windows to absorb the outdoor beauty from every angle, two master bedrooms, a kitchen workspace facing the water, an open floor plan, sleeping for 10, cathedral ceiling, main floor laundry, porch and a special place for the model ship Sue's father had made. It is an integral part of the nautical detailing throughout the house.

The white kitchen with black granite countertop was a look Sue had always wanted. Details abound in every direction from moldings and cabinetry to benches and decking. The fieldstone fireplace brings the outdoors inside. "The men who did our stone work were masters," explains Jerry. "The process was amazing."

The 1 1/2 story garage not only houses boats and cars, but an upstairs workshop as well.

The completed project is truly a dream come true. A dream of lakefront living that embraces beauty, privacy and evolution of memories. Perhaps best stated by Sue and Jerry, "People ask us if we had the chance to do it over again if we would change anything. We tell them there isn't anything we would do differently." □



Existing fieldstone walls and landscaping led way to unlimited possibilities of form and function.



PREVIOUS: The new home sits on its original foundation.

TOP: Fieldstone walls combined with new brick and cedar shake create an exterior that perfectly complements its surroundings.

MIDDLE: The small porch was replaced with a sun-drenched space the homeowners enjoy year-round.

BOTTOM: As seen in this "before" photo, maintaining the original footprint of the lot and its spectacular view was imperative.



This dream kitchen features hickory floors, black granite counters, lighted upper cabinets and a cathedral ceiling.





TOP: A spectacular view of the lower level and the water can be eyed from every angle.

BOTTOM: Open living between the kitchen, dining and living area was one of the requirements for this renovation.

OPPOSITE

TOP LEFT: No matter the task, this desk makes it possible to enjoy the lakefront view.

TOP RIGHT: The fieldstone fireplace was fashioned after the exterior retaining walls.

BOTTOM LEFT: The upstairs bath features dual sinks and plenty of storage space.

BOTTOM RIGHT: A dream master bedroom faces the water and accesses a deck the length of the house.



The mission was to create a home to welcome children and grandchildren.





Scenic lakefront views abound from every direction.

Appliances, Kitchen/Bath Cabinets, Countertops:
THE KITCHEN SHOP

Exterior Siding, Trim: **FOX BROTHERS COMPANY**

Hardwood/Tile Flooring, Tile Shower Surrounds:
PROSOURCE WHOLESALE FLOORCOVERINGS

Lighting Fixtures: **LYMAN LIGHTING & ACCESSORIES**

Mechanical System/Chimney Design:
NIEBOER HEATING & COOLING

Windows & Doors: **HANNAPEL HOME CENTER**



R. VanDyke Building & Remodeling

PRINCIPAL OWNER (S):

Randy VanDyke is the company owner; Josh VanDyke is Randy's son and partner. Both men are State of Michigan licensed builders and members of the Home Builders Association of Greater Kalamazoo.

NUMBER OF YEARS IN BUSINESS:

29 years in business.

YEAR BUSINESS STARTED:

1981

EDUCATION:

Randy obtained a bachelor of science degree in industrial education and architectural drafting from Western Michigan University.

Josh obtained a bachelor of science degree in construction management and an associate degree in architectural technology from Ferris State University.

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:

Since our start in business, the relationships with our clients have always been a major part of who we are. We have always made an effort to stay close to our key principles: Work hard to exceed people's expectations, strive to build a high quality product, and let our work speak for itself. This is why we've had the privilege of working for many of them several times through the years.

WHAT SETS YOUR BUSINESS APART?

It is our goal to provide outstanding guidance in helping make dreams a reality. We are both very involved, and each bring a unique perspective; together helping our customers navigate the project's many decisions. Through good planning, organization, and value engineering, each home we craft matches the owner's personality and individual lifestyle. Above all, we work hard to make the home building experience very enjoyable.

HOBBIES:

Both Randy and Josh are avid outdoorsmen and enjoy woodworking and furniture building.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For more information about R. VanDyke Building & Remodeling, call (269) 626-0040 or visit www.RVanDykeBuilders.com.