

Custom HOME OF THE WEEK



Homeowners enjoy home of their dreams

By Elizabeth Bennett

Jerry and Brenda Burks have a home that makes their guests gasp, especially if they see it from the lake.

"It looks like a normal home from the front," Brenda says, "but when you look at it from the lake it looks like a hotel; it looks huge. That's because you can see all three floors."

The home is built on a sloped lot that the couple purchased from MC Construction Consultants Inc. The company also designed the home to hug the slope, producing a dramatic structure, both inside and out.

"The people at MC have the know-how and years of experience to come up with great ideas. I really didn't think we could get a large home on this lot. But they came up with a way to build it and it's so beautiful."

The couple's home has three bedrooms, five bathrooms, a living room, great room, office, den and recreation

room. The main level is where guests marvel at the breathtaking views of Long Lake.

However, this home offers a view from each of the three floors, thanks to MC's design skills that transformed a challenging lot into a dramatic homesite. Brenda is enjoying her newfound love of gardening, which includes taming the landscaping on the hillside. Not to be outdone, Jerry has the front yard looking like a putting green.

The couple also enjoys the master bedroom with its sitting area that has a fireplace and a private balcony. "It's such a cozy room, and it's wonderful to step out on the balcony at night and see the stars." Breanna, the couple's 14-year-old daughter, also has a balcony off her third-floor bedroom. The seventh grader also has a private bath and walk-in closet, so she enjoys total privacy.

The center of the third floor is open to the family room below. Brenda, who

admits to being a "Christmas nut," says decorating the full three floors creates a stunning display.

The lower level, which snuggles into the slanting hillside, gets its share of activity. The couple painted the large recreation room red and decorated it with a large photo of James Dean, a retro pub table and home theater drapes. When they entertain, they simply step onto the deck to cook on a barbecue. "MC included a gas hookup for a grill on the patio and upper deck, plus they put wiring and electrical plugs everywhere and even installed a sound system for the whole house."

No matter whether they're gazing at the stars on the third-floor balcony, relaxing in the family room or entertaining guests in the retro room, this couple enjoys their home to the fullest. "We had no idea how wonderful it would be," Brenda says, "but it's such a beautiful home and a wonderful, quiet area."

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