

Husband & Wife Team Work Together in Harmony



By Josette Kabin-Medina

When precision home builder Robert Board asked designer Christie Adams to take a ballroom dance class some 20 years ago, never did he imagine he'd be dancing with his future business partner.

For not long after that initial tango, the pair slipped out of their dancing shoes and two-stepped into a union of other creative art forms: home remodeling, design and construction, and ultimately, marriage. "Don't join a ballroom dance class with a single guy unless you plan to marry him," Christie recently joked, her serene and poised nature pleasantly accenting her polished, attractive persona.

"The experience of taking dance classes allowed us to get to know each other very well and after getting to know each other better we realized we made sense on various levels," she added, with a smile.

The design and construction dynamo met in Oregon when a married couple asked their friend Robert, a self-employed contractor, to help with an important project: Build a home for single mom Christie Adams.

Their mutual admiration was parallel: Christie embraced Robert because his expertise was highly regarded and

admired in their Oregon town, while "Christie was - and is - a very talented designer and more than that, the kind of girl to take home and introduce to your mother," Robert states.

Now married 19 years - the same number of years they have been working together - the amusement and gratification they find is spent working in concert designing, constructing and remodeling homes as the dynamic home specialty force, Board by Board Builder and Board by Board Design - designations



that uncannily reflect the essence of meticulous construction coupled with their own surname.

The precision of their earlier fancy footwork can be found replicated in the numerous kitchen and bathroom remodels they have completed throughout the Quad City area since they moved to Prescott in 2000. And the timing was harmonic: The popularity of specialty remodeling has made a comeback due to the stagnant home construction market.

"People are finding there is still a tremendous value and a lot of good in their existing homes," Robert says, "and rather than build an entirely new home, we can determine what is not working for them and create a unique, seamless remodel to meet all of their personal

(Continued on page 71)

Board by Board
(Continued from page 60)

needs and desires and they can end up in a brand new place, right where they are."

"Our goal is that the client never knew where the old house started and the new space began."

Robert is described by his wife as the "framework expert" who "understands the structural process while Christie says her role is to perfect interior details providing clients professional feedback on internal elements and a special expertise in kitchen and bathroom design, including a hard-earned certification with the National Kitchen & Bath Association.

"I believe what we make as a team is the Yin and Yang, the Beauty and the Beast approach," Robert joked. "I know the nuts and bolts of the profession and she brings the feminine perspective to the table.

"What we have found oftentimes is that one person in the duo is the driving force of the remodeling or home construction process," Robert recently explained of the husband-wife teams for which they often work. "Somewhere along the line the other person will want their voice heard and they want someone there to facilitate that."

Hearing clients' voices and desires then crafting them to epitomize their personal space is both Board's primary objective. When viewing her final product, it is clear Christie designs an interior to reflect the essence of its occupants, not her own. That goal, and the professionalism imparted simultaneously, was apparent to William and Kelly Robbiano who observed the construction of a Board by Board home.

"We were living in Hassayampa and about to build a home in American Ranch when we saw a house under construction by the Boards," Kelly


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recalls. "There was so much cleanliness on the job and attention to detail. We were extremely impressed and we knew we would interview the Boards as potential contractors.

"We knew between Robert and Christie we had all of our bases covered. Christie is fabulous to work with as a designer and she adds so much to their team. When building a high-end home, oftentimes people want to hire a designer, but it was wonderful that we didn't have to do that separately from hiring the builder. We hired a builder and a designer at the same time when we hired the Boards."

Find out more about Christie and Robert Board online at www.boardbyboard.com or by calling (928) 442-1387 or e-mail@boardbyboard.com.

