

# Making a House Into a Home Valatianta

"I enjoy it and love being in it every day."

"What excites me? It's done correctly. I look at it and don't have to ask, 'Why did we do that?" Robert G of Marietta enthusiastically describes his, and his wife Gloria's, experience during and after Atlanta Design & Build's redesign and remodel of their kitchen, master bath, and back deck area.

Robert and Gloria, having recently retired, moved from Florida in 2016 to be closer to their daughters and grandchildren. They bought a traditional 4 bedroom, 5 bathroom home with a home office and basement that had been built in 2003. The house was in good shape, but soon they realized that certain aspects just didn't fit with their life. For example, the kitchen had a single oven. Gloria wanted a double oven for the times when the family came over. Robert, being a person who pays attention to logic and detail, started realizing that the original builder had covered the basics, but hadn't built in real craftsmanship. It didn't take them long to determine that, even

though the house was OK, it wasn't the home they would have built had they the choice. It was time for updating!

Robert was brand new to the area, so didn't have any point of reference to help in his selection of a remodeler. After online research, he decided first to call Atlanta Design & Build, among several other contractors. An interview was set up and Dale Contant came to his home to find out what he and Gloria were looking to do. Robert found Dale to be very personable; but more than that, he was impressed with Dale's extensive experience and background in the industry. The fact that Dale was, at that time, national president of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry substantiated Robert's impression that Dale was committed to operating a first-rate company. Robert realized that he had hit the jackpot! He took the opportunity and signed up for Atlanta Design & Build's services—and hasn't regretted it since.



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## The New American Home 2019

A home with wide open interior spaces, immense sliding glass doors, seamless transition from indoors to outdoors, and dramatic vistas—this is The New American Home (TNAH) 2019. Each year the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) constructs a spectacular home as an educational tool for professional remodelers, designers and home builders during the International Builders Show. The homes demonstrate new construction technology, green building practices, and stylish design trends. Attendees visit the homes and gather all kinds of unique ideas they can use when designing and building their own clients' projects.

TNAH 2019 is an 8,200-square-foot five bedroom home built on a rock-faced terrace in the hilly outskirts of Las Vegas, NV. To access the home's front entry, you pass through an extensive covered courtyard that is surrounded on all sides by glass doors. These doors open up to create a smooth flow into a fabulous show garage and lounge on the right, as well as a casita and a study on the left.

Once you reach the end of the courtyard and pass through the actual entry door, you immediately find yourself in the sizable kitchen and great room. This space extends without interruption to the outdoor living patio and infinity-edge pool. The pocketing glass patio doors that are 14-foot-tall and up to 20-foot-wide provide clear openings. Sight lines from the entryway move the eye through the interior spaces out to the breathtaking panoramic view of the Las Vegas Valley beyond. The outdoor area faces north and is designed with deep roof overhangs—therefore protected from excessive heat. It is a comfortable place to relax during the day and on into the evening.

TNAH 2019 includes some very unique aesthetics. The home displays bright bold colors in unexpected locations, which lends that WOW factor. Contemporary light fixtures with dramatic styling present a focal point in every room. A remarkable angled wet bar in the kitchen area juts out into the outdoor patio space as well. The master bedroom suite features an amazing cantilevered bed.

The architecture of this home was developed with the idea of utilizing sustainable building practices and energy-saving components to promote efficiency. For example, the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index score is 45 (55 percent more energy efficient than code); roof and wall insulation are at R-57 and R-46 (both well above minimum standards); and there is a 58 percent reduction in total water use. TNAH 2019 is designed to exceed the requirements for certification to the Emerald level of the National Green Building Standard (NGBS).





## TWO HOT AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTS FROM BEST OF IBS



The Best of IBS 2019 Awards ceremony took place at the NAHB International Builders Show in Las Vegas. More than 300 entries were received and judged by a panel of 31 independent judges. The winning products displayed

the best combination of design, functionality and innovation. The awards were given in nine categories, but the winners in the following two categories are particularly enjoyable for homeowners to know about when remodeling their homes:

#### **BEST KITCHEN PRODUCT**

#### CAFÉ 5-in-1 Wall Oven with Advantium Technology by GE Appliances

This versatile built-in saves time and space by uniting convection cooking, warming/proofing oven, microwave, toaster oven capabilities and speed-cooking oven with Advantium Technology in a single 30-inch appliance. Advantium Technology cooks the outside of food like a conventional oven with radiant heat produced by halogen bulbs above and below the food. The halogen-produced heat receives a boost of microwave energy,



resulting in food that browns and cooks evenly and fast, while retaining its natural moisture. The oven is WiFi-enabled and features an intuitive, 7-inch, full-color LCD touchscreen display that provides access to hundreds of curated recipes.

#### BEST INDOOR LIVING PRODUCT

#### Foundation Series Luxury Gas Fireplace by Heat & Glo

Modern in form and luxurious by design, the Foundation Series brings numerous firsts to the luxury gas fireplace category including: flames twice the height of comparable luxury fireplaces; mirrored glass that gives the perspective of infinite rows of flames; multi-colored chromotherapy LED lighting with a remote control to change lights to different hues; cool-wall construction that allows you to install a TV or other heat-sensitive materials just inches above the fireplace; ability to connect to home automation systems; only UL-approved fireplace in this category for the utmost in safety.

## OPEN YOUR WALLS TO THE OUTSIDE

When the inside of your home opens up seamlessly to the outside, it can make a big difference in the impression you have of the space. After retracting your lofty glass doors to one side, the exterior wall basically disappears. You can move throughout your home and not be aware whether you are indoors or outdoors.

An outdoor patio or deck naturally becomes an extension of your living space when those huge doors are open. This is a great benefit when you entertain large groups, and it is a less expensive option than building an addition. The amount of fresh air that wafts into your home gives you the sensation that the indoor spaces are actually outdoors. The fresh air and access to natural light energizes your body and increases your positive vibes. Enormous glass doors are extremely popular today for transitional as well as contemporary styled homes. Some configurations involve multiple sliding doors that stack behind a single fixed pane. Other multi-slide panels stack and slide into a pocket in the wall completely out of view. Folding doors fold like an accordion on hinges and can be stored either to one or both sides.

Many different frame finishes are available for this type of glass door, including the impressive trend-setting matte black. For energy efficiency and safety, double-glazed low-e tempered glass is typically used. If your area is apt to have extreme heat or cold, you may want to consider triple-glazed glass instead. Select impact-resistant glass if your area often experiences high winds. Consider installing retractable screens if your environment is prone to insects.







# Making a House Into a Home

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When Dale met with Robert and Gloria, without calling it as such, he introduced them to his company's HomeStyle® System. This system is a proprietary method that Atlanta Design & Build has developed to ensure that, from beginning to end of a project, a homeowner's vision is realized and the modifications to their home truly enrich their lives.

Even though the project has been completed for some time, Robert still finds Atlanta Design & Build's use of its system fascinating. The entire staff—including administrative, design/ estimating, and construction—is dedicated to the company's



vision. And with everyone's participation, the system works. "It began during the first time meeting with Dale, and it was a joy to watch the game plan unfold. It started with listening, organization, planning, and attention to detail. There was no, 'Now





let's try it and see what happens.' They had plans. There were no glitches—even from the get-go. And over a year later, everything now still works perfectly. It's a hard act to follow!"



In order to better accommodate

the entire family during occasions like Thanksgiving and Christmas, the kitchen and back porch were reimagined and totally updated. The back porch has been turned into a functional and aesthetic living space. The big sliding glass windows in the new sunroom open up the back yard, bringing in the light, and creating an inviting gathering area for the whole family. The kitchen now boasts a double oven among the new appliances. Its island now creates a bold statement inviting family members to gather and participate while the meal is being prepared. The yellowish tones of 20 years ago in the bathroom have been replaced with airy whites and light grays, giving a new, clean look to this once outdated space.

Robert and Gloria now have a home with their own imprint. Every day, Robert admires the craftsmanship and reflects on the great experience he had while the Atlanta Design & Build team worked through the details of making his house the perfect place to enjoy his retirement and his family.

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