

IRVING PARK

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Living

..... featured home

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The Forbis' Home Renovation



When Patrick and Miriam Forbis bought their Irving Park home almost seven years ago, they were happy to be moving back to the city where they both grew up. They had been living in nearby Summerfield but were ready to return to the heart of Greensboro and closer to their work as President and Vice-President/In-House Counsel, respectively, of Forbsi & Dick Funeral Service, the family business that has been proud to serve the needs of the community for five generations.

Built in 1964, their home had solid "bones," but was outdated and did not offer the flow that makes sense for today's living. "When we purchased our home, we were told it had been added onto five times. Our galley kitchen had great cabinet space, but lacked airflow

and space to gather. The master bedroom had two master bathrooms, which was nice, but we knew a full guest bathroom would be a better use of the second master bathroom," Miriam says.

Patrick and Miriam had worked with Marta Mitchell of Marta Mitchell Interior Design over the years, so they were confident she was the right choice for the project. "Marta knows what we like and that we do not sky away from pattern, color and fun. To help us select the correct design that would function well for our family. Marta's team prepared a video set to jazz music depicting how each possibility would look in our home."

To fully renovate the kitchen and master bathrooms, they ended up renovating the adjoining den and laundry room as well. They had a very large den and connecting sunroom, so they took half of the den space and turned the kitchen sideways, creating a kitchen that was now more than double its original size. Their new master bathroom is updated and spacious, and they now have a convenient full guest bathroom and great laundry room with storage.

"Everyone always seems to gather in the kitchen, and now ours has room to do so. We still have a comfortable den area with a couch, chairs and fireplace, and a wonderful sunroom. I really like the quality and color of the built-in cabinets by Alcorn's Custom Woodworking of Reidsville, and I especially love the wooden table at the end of our large kitchen island. It is made of Chamcha wood from Indonesia and has a Cerused finish - it is beautiful and the ideal place to enjoy a casual meal with my family."

Patrick and Miriam are extremely pleased with their renovated home. "The house functions better as a whole. Our home is comfortable, colorful and great for entertaining or just hanging out. We now have great flow and function for our family - it is perfect. Working with Marta and her team to design and decorate was just icing on the cake."

