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Chris Kofitsas and New World Design Builders:

I intended to begin this review by writing of Chris and his associates with descriptions of their competence, creativity, and so forth, in the joining of two apartments into our new home.

But, if I begin at the beginning, and describe what made this work together special, it was their enthusiasm and their warmth. Everything seemed to flow from this center: competence, creativity, openness, integrity, and commitment to our having the home we dreamed of.

Their competence was demonstrated as much in their ability to adapt and to correct, as in their high quality craftsmanship. When faced with a challenge, they were willing to go the extra distance to make things work. A dramatic example of this came with the realization that the floors were incredibly uneven, from the original shoddy construction of the building. It took careful, determined effort and hours of extra work to make the floor a thing of beauty.

Their creativity owed as much to their interest in understanding our tastes, ideas, and even our feelings, as it did to their own vision. The result was often an interesting and satisfying process of development. For example, the original master bath was designed as an integrated unit with shower, toilet, and vanity. But the placement of the toilet “felt” wrong to us in relationship to the bedroom. We thought we might be viewed as silly for this perception, but, instead, we were met with a warm sense of understanding. The result of this exchange led Chris to design a separate “powder” room, with just a toilet and tiny sink, and then he took the opportunity to “dress” the little room in beautiful stone and lighting effects that made it into a little jewel.

I could write more about Chris, his work ethic and his values, and I

could also write separately about each of his members --- the designer and project director, the contractor, cabinet maker, the accountant --- all in the same vein. We enjoyed knowing and working with them and wish them all good fortune.

All the best,

John and Carol