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RIGHT SIZING

Home may be where the heart is, but the right type of home depends on a variety of considerations. Three Santa Feans share how they found their ideal living situations for their phases of life.

By Kelly Koepke | Photos by Steven St. John



Dream Home Built for Two, and More

Jodi Vevoda moved to Santa Fe in 2011 after more than three decades working in the international publishing industry. Little did she know that she'd find a husband, start a career in the custom home building industry, and build her dream home here.

"Will is 68 and I'm 66. We met in Santa Fe 11 years ago and married seven years ago. He has been a high-end custom home builder in Santa Fe for more than four decades," she says of her husband, Will Prull, president of Prull Custom Builders. Vevoda is now executive vice president of the award-winning firm that constructs spec homes. She's also the associate publisher of *Santa Fe Magazine*.

When the couple met, they lived a quarter mile from each other on Bishops Lodge Road in older remodeled homes. When they married, it made sense to build something that reflected both their styles. While on a morning walk, Prull, a self-described country mouse, discovered their Las Campanas lot abutting Bureau of Land Management open space. Vevoda likes the amenities of city life but also appreciates views of the Jemez and Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

Local architect and friend Craig Hoopes consulted with them to design a space that could accommodate their love of the outdoors and entertainment, and their extensive art collection. Both Prull and Vevoda had separately and together traveled extensively, acquiring sculptures in Africa, metalwork in Mexico, and pottery. Vevoda had been purchasing paintings since the 1980s, and they both collect local artist Kellogg Johnson's ceramics.

"Our eclectic furniture wouldn't work in the new house, so we sold everything. We identified the larger pieces of art that went into the home together. It was fun to design the space for what we have, with the furniture coming later so the art stands out," Vevoda says. Prull acted as general contractor, and Vevoda engaged Santa Fe's Robin Gray Design to create rugs from wool and silks to the couple's specifications. Local Chandler Prewitt Design harmonized artwork, furniture, and other elements with the architecture.

The mid-century-inspired 4,350-square-foot three-bedroom, three-bath house offers spectacular views from the large windows in every room. The main suite is separate from the two guest rooms for privacy when family and friends come to visit.

The couple are also prepared for aging in place: there are no steps or elevation changes, and all the showers are walk-in. They moved in February 2018, and the house earned 2020 Haciendas Parade of Homes awards for best design, best kitchen, and best master suite.

While many home building and improvement projects are recipes for conflict, the couple says they worked together in a true partnership to build what they both



consider their dream home. Mixing their business and personal lifestyles, they've created a compound that's grown over the last five years. The pair is now building a guest house with a pool. The structure will serve as offices for their business and extra guest accommodations.

"The house is designed for entertaining, which we both love for personal and professional reasons. There's an outdoor kitchen and pizza oven, barbecue, and fire pit," Vevoda says. "We love to gather people . . . and often host business events and nonprofit events to give back to the community." ♦

Kelly Koepke and her husband built a guest house with the idea that someday one or both of her parents could live there, and that one day they would downsize into it themselves.

Vevoda and Prull's ideal home made space for their respective and shared art collections.