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**"We Don't Just Help
You Build Your Home,
We Help Build Traditions."
— Chad Hudson,
Hudson Properties/
Savoy Companies**

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A 10-Year Journey



Chad Hudson Retells His Own Family's Home-Building Experience And Shares His Vision For The Future

By Beverly Smirnis. Photos by Vernon Wentz-Ad Imagery.

Ten years ago, with the help of his good friend, the late Lance Holland of Regal Relators, builder Chad Hudson and his wife, Lindsay, a practicing attorney, purchased a raw piece of property that had recently been incorporated into Rockwall's first gated community of Chandler's Landing. Since it was not a part of the original master community plan, it had no utilities connected to it. But the Hudsons had a vision that became a reality when their family moved into their new home last Christmas season.

Chad's own experience of building his dream home is not unlike that of every client he serves. (Well, the journey is usually shorter than 10 years!) But nevertheless, Chad understands the trust that a family puts in their builder when they embark on a journey to build their dream home. No matter what size or price tag the home is going to have, building a home is a major life undertaking.

He has built numerous homes since forming Hudson Properties in 2000. He has also bought and renovated several investment properties in Rockwall and the surrounding areas which he now earns rental income from. For the last 18 years, Chad split his time between his real estate company and the family business he ran with his parents, Tommy and Gail Hudson. Chad says he learned a lot of his business management skills, organization and atten-

tion to detail from working with his parents. With the recent sale of that business, Chad is now able to focus on his evolving real estate companies. As a builder, the perfect pace for Chad has been undertaking one new custom build or remodeling job at a time, and building a few spec homes a year. The build jobs typically come through a referral, and a sterling reputation has helped the spec projects sell quickly, too.

Chad says that the stroke of fate that landed him at Texas A&M and his previous experience as a baseball team player has helped him in his professional career. It was a baseball scholarship that led Chad to Texas A&M, where he was a starting player on two Big XII Championship Baseball teams and on the 1999 College World Series team. He realized in college that after baseball, he didn't



“For the house plans, we knew all along we wanted a mid-century modern home. In April of 2017, we finally broke ground and started creating and building what had been only a vision in our minds and on paper for so long.”

When we visited Lindsay and Chad in their new home, they said that even their young daughters, Breck and Sealy, played a part in some of the decision-making process. Truly, every space was thought about in such detail that the home was already built in their minds before ground ever broke. The 3,600-square-foot house is three bedrooms and two and a half baths on a single level.

“We always loved the white brick used on Northpark Mall,” Lindsay said. “And



want a career that would involve sitting behind a desk, so he took some of A&M's Construction Science classes and got inspired. The relationship skills learned by being on a championship baseball team have helped him to build partnerships with the experts he trusts to build his championship

through some investigating we found out that it was a smooth-faced Acme Brick that was still available.” The brick, along with its unique washed aggregate mortar, is incorporated not only outside but also on many of the interior walls in the home. Their choice to use clear cedar on garage doors and under the eaves is another decision they count as a major contributing factor to the home's beautiful exterior. Inside, the focus was on creating an open space throughout. Some of the choices they named as most relevant to their enjoyment of the home include the window walls on either side of the living area, Level 5 drywall finish, a wisely planned oversized kitchen counter, long-researched cabinet selections, and expert space-planning, including oversized bedrooms and closets for all three bedrooms.

homebuilding team. Many of the subs and suppliers are now 15-year veterans on that team. Staying a relevant team means learning new things every day, Chad says.

Chad is also proud of the oversized garage with plenty of space for their vehicles, exercise equipment and a safe room. The mechanical room was installed for quick and easy access off the hallway inside the home with an emergency shut-off valve. “That’s a \$100 item that should be installed in every home,” he said of the shut-off valve.

Thinking ahead is another common-sense trait that has made a difference for Chad. And that trait is perfectly illustrated on the property that is now his own family's home. It took years of replating and installing the necessary water, sewer, electrical and gas lines to sustain a home. “After all this, we began the fun part – planning and designing the house and surrounding landscape. We started with the landscaping because the property needed drainage issues addressed, and we wanted to make sure the trees we planted had plenty of time to start maturing before construction began,” Chad explained, adding, “Building Savvy was a great idea resource for materials and design.”

“The result of all of our researching, planning, designing and dreaming is breathtaking. The home is exactly what we imagined it would be. We are so blessed to be able to raise our family in a home that we created and built for ourselves by ourselves,” Chad said. As he thinks ahead to all the family memories that will be made in their home, and in the homes of all of his clients, Chad is also thinking ahead about the next chapter in his business – Savoy Companies.

Savoy Companies is a partnership between Chad and his friend and fellow baseball buddy, Justin Ruggiano, who went on to play Big League baseball after Texas A&M. As a uniquely diversified company specializing in real estate development, new construc-

tion, rehabilitation and real estate investing, Savoy Companies has unparalleled skill in determining the market needs and providing a product that is most desirable. Savoy Builders is quickly gaining recognition as one of the premier builders of single-family and multi-family homes. Savoy Developers continues to utilize its market expertise to purchase and develop tracts of land into housing and commercial developments. Savoy Holdings also has a growing portfolio of attractive rental properties and real estate notes in thriving neighborhoods and communities.

While the Savoy Companies business plan calls for Chad to ramp up his activity and presence in the marketplace, there is one thing he will never forget: "Home is where life happens. It's where we entertain our friends, raise our families, and build the memories and family traditions that make life worth living." His company mantra will remain the same: "We don't just help you build your home; we help build traditions."

Chad and Lindsay wanted to give special recognition to all of those who helped make their vision a reality. First they wanted to thank their parents for all of their support: Tommy and Gail Hudson, Cheryl Hudson, David and Becky Burleson, and Teddy and Bonnie Wehring. They also are appreciative of the assistance and expert advice they received during the years of planning from the City of Rockwall, Chandlers Landing, Chase Corker, Chris Pruitt, Terry Krueger, Jose Max Hernandez, John Dudek and Chris Williams. A big thank you to those who worked so diligently during the construction process: David Buchanan, Glen Henderson, Roberto Lopez and Bill Butcher, in addition to all of the subcontractors and trade experts who were on site. And finally, a thank you to Lori Hennig, Louretta Moukhtar, and Maria Perez for being a part of the journey. ▼

