

# CdA

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## PLAYTIME *on the* LAKE

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NOSTALGIC RETURN TO CDA





old-world elegance  
meets lakefront bliss

# fire & water

There is a certain light on Lake Coeur d'Alene that lingers long on a summer evening, soft gold reflected from mirror-smooth water and deep blue Idaho sky.

And if one is in the right place at just the right time, the effect is pure magic.

Such is the feeling when sitting fireside in Mica Bay at the incredible new lake home built by Ed and Kristianna Mylett. As evening deepens, the light reflects on copper highlights and flames dance all along the property from fire pits to the turrets. It's a stunning effect.

"This is our favorite place in the whole world," Kristianna muses with a contented sigh.

It's easy to see why. Here, the couple has created a timeless home that embraces lake living to full advantage, and showcases the talents of some of Idaho's best. As the light fades and the fires blaze, one might gaze in wonder and reflect on what it truly takes to create something of this magnitude.



# vision

It begins with dreaming  
a bold dream.



Ed and Kristianna enjoy welcoming new visitors through their new home's massive wood doors. The huge free-form fireplace with a six-foot-wide box was built out of Telluride Stone from Colorado, with a matching feature at the outdoor gazebo.

**G**rowing up, Ed Mylett always wanted to do something special. That drive led to a baseball career, cut short by injury, and then to financial services, where he found he had a knack for connecting with others and helping them reach their life's goals. Today, he is a leading business coach and motivational speaker.

He and Kristianna, who were teenage sweethearts, have worked extremely hard to become self-made millionaires, and Ed now shares that vision with others.

They came to Idaho for the scenery, the golf, the water, and to raise their two children in a more safe and sane environment than the one they came from in California.

"There are more real people here who value your character and the way you live your life more than the kind of car you drive," Ed says. "I like driving my truck here. Here, our kids have a better shot of coming out of childhood happily."

They moved into Black Rock Golf Club initially. But on boat trips around the lake, they found themselves eyeballing various lakefront properties and asking, "What if...?"

The protected cove they picked, on one of Lake Coeur d'Alene's western reaches, was spectacular – but not just any home would have fit here. A small cabin was the only existing structure.

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# creation

From many ideas comes collaboration.



The copper, stone and timber trusses lend a modern interpretation to the European castle style that Kristianna has loved since she was a little girl: "I should have been born in a different time." The master bathroom tub is cantilevered for a feeling of suspension out over the water.

An elegant timber frame main residence, separated guesthouse and an outdoor gazebo are all laid into the hillside with multiple angles, levels, turrets and open spaces. "The design was a challenge due to the site conditions, the slope of the lot and the exposure being to the north," says Eric Hedlund, architect. "We designed a residence that was long and narrow, allowing every room to have a view of the lake."

"It was going to be a small house, and it grew," Ed says. "The quality of the project increased as we went."

The architect used computer graphics to allow the owners to preview all finish materials, from roofing, siding, paints, stone windows, and the copper accents that were at first questioned, but turned out to be one of the home's most striking features.

"It was a privilege to be a part of the team," says Andy Smith of Edwards Smith Construction. "Working with a great design and visionary owners, we were allowed to excel at what we do. Our job as a builder is to integrate everything; to convert all the ideas and dreams into reality or, what I like to call functional art."

"We had a great time building this house," Ed says. "There were great collaborations. Eric found ways to make our crazy ideas happen. Andy has the right mindset for the thousands of decisions. I got to the point about halfway through where I would just give up control to these guys, who know their work so well."



In summers, the couple sips morning coffee and does most of their cooking in the outdoors kitchen. "We love to live outside!" Indoors, Kristianna admits she's still learning the tricks of her massive French-designed commercial cooking range.

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enjoy

The waterfront  
is best shared.



This home plays at contrasts with graceful ease. It provides privacy, yet embraces the lakefront lifestyle wholeheartedly. Every room feels like a piece of art, as visitors often observe, yet it's supremely comfortable.

"We wanted a legacy home that would work long term, but also be ideal for the kids now," says Ed. "I think it will pass the test of time."

He grew up playing on the summer shores of New Hampshire's Lake Winnepesaukee. "It was always a dream to have my own lake place someday," he says. "I never knew it would be to this extent."

Here on Lake Coeur d'Alene's placid shores, their children can spend time outdoors, fishing, boating and just being kids.

"It's a better way of life," Ed says. "Here, we know our neighbors across the lake better than the people we lived our whole lives next to in the city."

"From our bedroom, we can hear waves crashing at night, or listen to the sound of the rain," Kristianna says. "It's peaceful, just so peaceful. I think you live a lot longer this way." Cda

The game room on the home's lower level has proved to be a very popular hangout. "We wanted large spaces where people could gather," Ed says. "We've had 100 people over and it felt just like they belonged."

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