



At Home With ...
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granite countertop adds an element of purple to the kitchen that ties into the rest of our home. We were able to two-tone the backsplash with tiles of Violetta and Black Galaxy, and added an extension Black Galaxy kitchen table that expands to seat 10 for special occasions. This room blends elegant and casual elements to make the perfect kitchen for all occasions.

Once we are done in the kitchen, we usually head to the family room. A large leather sectional fills the room with enough seating to be comfortable when

friends are over, or to stretch out when it is just the family. I am usually stretched out on the sectional throwing a football to our sons Russ and Stevie. We purposely left extra room for running in the room, simply for our own entertainment. A dark purple rug and medium green leather sectional are complemented by the Violetta granite coffee table, a deep purple chair and some great original art from John Butler, which truly finishes off the room.

One of the best features of our home is the backyard. We put in a pool for the children a few years ago and, rather than lay it

across the backyard, we turned it sideways and ran the pool along one side. That allowed for a huge deck and a poolhouse equipped with a bathroom and a wet bar. Rich Tedesci at Jacrist Landscape Design created and completed the landscaping project around this Colley pool. This is our Shangri-la. It's where my wife Karen and I enjoy sipping lemonade with neighbors and watching the kids run by. Most backyards lose their excitement once the sun goes down, but not ours. We had it accented with beautiful landscape lighting to enhance all the features. Eleanor Stillwell created the effect of soft lighting around the yard, and every night I still walk out simply to enjoy the view.

Written by John Pusateri

Photography by Acorn Studios

Home is where I come to relax and wash off the effects of a busy day.

Our home serves many roles. It is where we celebrate birthdays and other exciting days. It also is the place where we look for solace when things in the day do not go according to plans.

Each room has a job. Of course, the house is contemporary, utilizing the latest in design and technology to make our lives easier. We start with the center of the house: the kitchen. I designed this kitchen to utilize the space more efficiently and to allow for easy cooking operations, yet it also holds lots of people since we like to entertain. We figured it was best not to utilize standard cabinets and chose to work with Dave Ness at Inter-Shapes Inc. He was able to complete our conception with actual product.

It started with a beautiful curly maple to which he added a slight wash to remove some of the yellow. This blended better with the laminate floor we selected. Touches of steel were added for accent and curved soffits soften the straight lines of the kitchen. The Violetta

