

ITALK  
design  
home

This home boasts a one of a kind wine cellar with a thick glass floor weighing close to 600 lbs and houses over 900 bottles of wine and was an innovative collaboration between Robert and builder Tom Dillard.

# Home *away from* Home

with Robert  
and Mary Ann Pierce

Written by Kim Hassold | Photos Provided





Lake Living at The Cliffs at Keowee Springs. Home designed by Dillard-Jones Builders.

**R**obert Pierce has always been a planner. Florida summers can be quite hot and humid, and it's not somewhere he and wife Mary Ann wanted to live full-time. So, a few years before his retirement, the family started talking about looking for a place in the Carolina mountains where they could go to escape the Florida heat. Robert had traveled throughout the Carolinas during his career. He played golf at The Cliffs at Glassy years ago and talked about how beautiful it was. They both also loved Greenville, Asheville and the surrounding area.

Being from Charleston, Robert had grown up with boats and the thought of lake living was very appealing. The Pierce's scheduled a visit to The Cliffs in April of 2016 and toured its lake communities. They settled on The Cliffs at Keowee

Springs because of the availability of lots and its proximity to the neighboring towns. They fell in love with the area and placed an offer on a lot during their visit. They were close to an accepted offer but backed away thinking maybe they were moving too quickly. They returned home but couldn't get the lake off their minds.

Robert and Mary Ann planned a second trip in July and when they arrived back, they felt as if they were home, back in South Carolina. They found the perfect lot and the perfect builder that weekend!

When they had their first design consultation, it was all about how they wanted to live in their home. They envisioned a home



Thoughtfully planned no-maintenance artificial grass and flagstone stepping stones leads guests from the outdoor living spaces down to the lake effortlessly.

that brought the outdoors in with large open spaces for grand entertaining, but also intimate and inviting enough for small gatherings. They wanted a comfortable “Lodge” feel, combined with elegance. The theme “Rustic Elegance” was born. They gathered inspiration from a home on Houzz that was actually in Montana.

The Pierce couple would visit every 8-10 weeks to check the progress and select lighting fixtures, appliances, tile, countertops, cabinetry...all the little details that would make the home unique.

The kitchen, bar area, and outdoor living area became the focal points. The kitchen and outdoor area came together in a

short time, the bar... not so much. It was probably the biggest concern they had, and they kept tweaking it and tweaking it having faith that in the end it was going to turn out the way they envisioned. They can honestly say it came out better than they could have imagined.

“The entire home did! The Dillard-Jones team exceeded our expectations, helping us build the home of our dreams in the setting of our dreams at The Cliffs,” said Mary Ann.

Robert’s cousin, Greg, affectionately nicknamed it, “The Cabin.”

“That’s how everyone refers to it now,” says Mary Ann.



A 10 foot custom cypress and iron table provides picturesque lake views for casual dining with family and friends. The outdoor lounging porch is a favorite spot of "The Cabin" to relax and enjoy morning coffee, afternoon cocktails and fall college football games.





With a love of cooking and entertaining, the Pierce's kitchen is a key focal point of the home's interior.



A cozy butler's pantry features a sliding rail ladder, wire accented upper cabinet doors, walnut countertops and lots of storage.

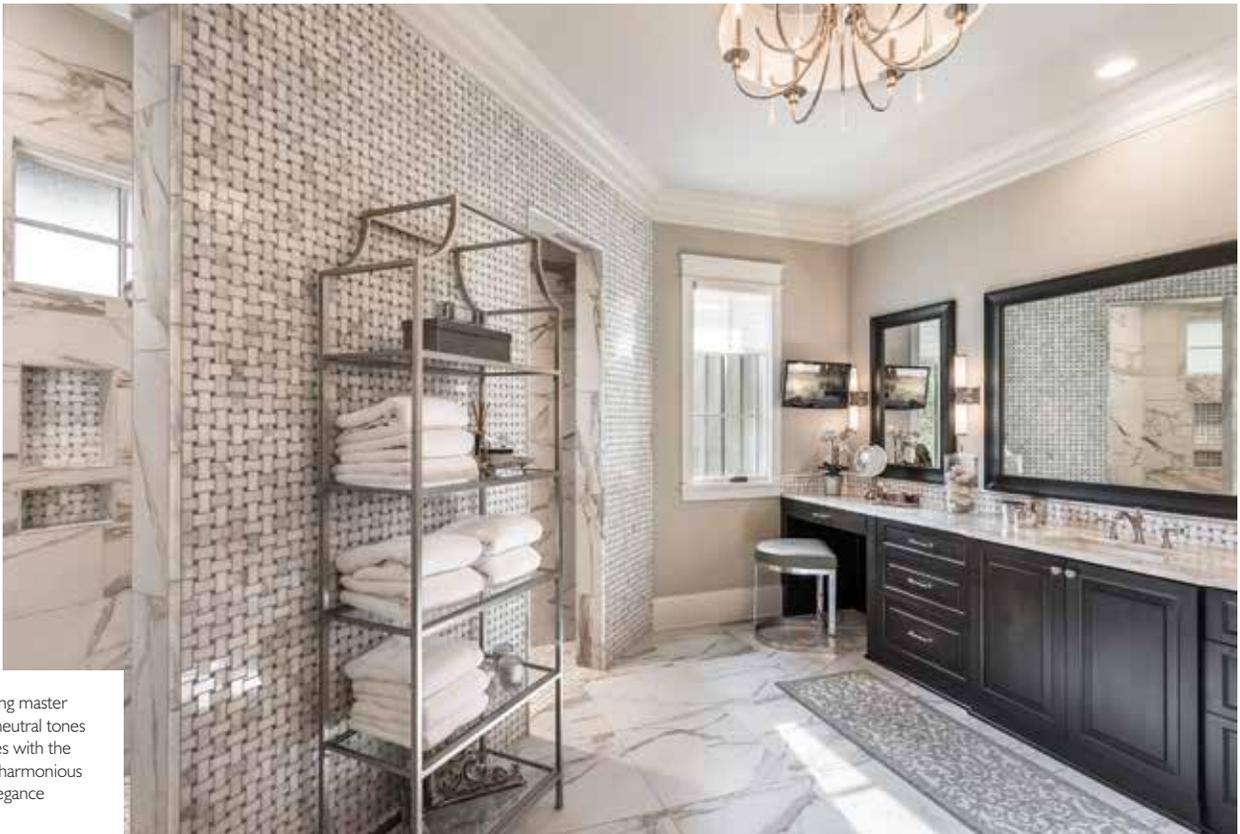
The home's great room has an impressive feel with vaulted tongue and groove stained ceilings and massive decorative wooden beams, while still exuding elegance but with a rustic lodge feel.



Every detail was carefully planned and quality-crafted in the Pierce's bar. It is a dramatic focal point of the main level and truly brings the outdoors inside with an impressive motorized hydraulic lifting window.



The master bedroom is a wonderful blend of rustic and elegance, mixing fine linens and tasteful art with a custom reclaimed oak wood ceiling treatment.



A stunning master bath in neutral tones continues with the home's harmonious rustic elegance theme.

The downstairs living area is a favorite relaxing spot with an adjacent kitchenette and french doors for easy access to the lower level outdoor area and the lake.



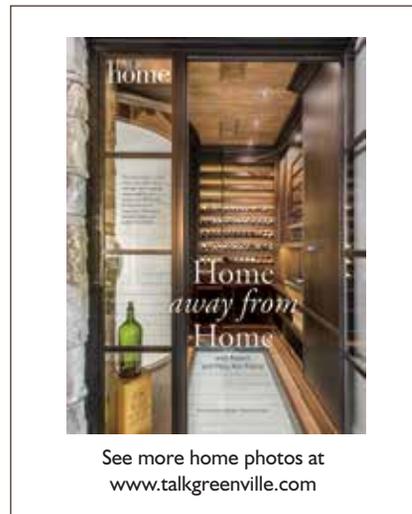


The upstairs bonus room and bath are tucked away from the main living areas and provide a cozy retreat for guests.



The main powder room has textured wallpaper, a copper vessel sink and showcases a noticeably impressive buck.

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