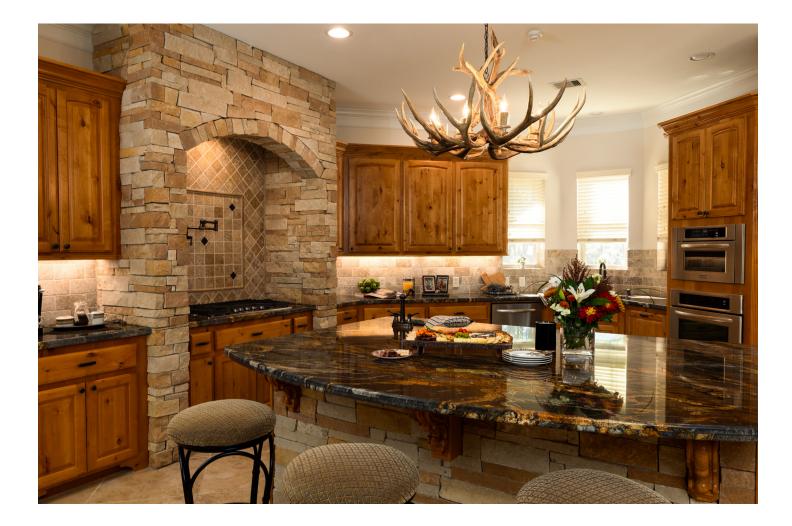
## THE METROPOLITAN BUILDER Inside showcase



WHODID IT DESIGNS | REMODELING Est. 2014 Function + Form: A Specialty of Whodid It Designs



## Function + Form: A Specialty of Whodid It Designs

## By Kathy Bowen Stolz

While many general contractors have a signature style, you would be hard-pressed to put a stamp on a Whodid It Designs & Remodeling project. Owner Sherry Pruitt is a remodeler with design in mind who has a passion for merging form seamlessly with function.

"There's no typical Sherry Pruitt design. I'm not a cookie cutter. I design for the person and their function, not for the trend," said Pruitt.

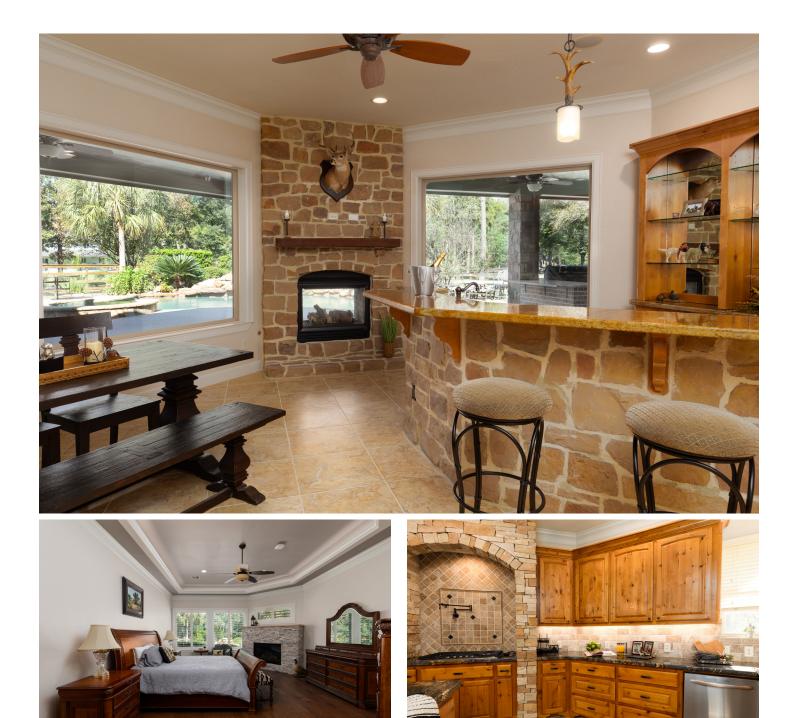
She emphasized that she's not an interior decorator but an interior structural designer who loves to remodel. "I love the spaces where life is really happening – a bath because that is where you start and finish the day, a kitchen because that is the center of the home, and an outdoor space because that should be an oasis.

"I take the time to get to know my clients' habits and how they function because I want them to have what they need and where they need it.

"For example, I ask what's their routine for laundry, where they feed the dog, so they can function the best within their home. I may replace the pull-out trash drawer in the kitchen with a dog food dispenser because that's where the homeowner feeds the dog," she explained.

"With every project, I want it to have everything that the client needs, finding and making ordinary spaces into extraordinary spaces. I love doing things that are different and not the norm. The most mundane things can be exciting and special if they're done right. And I love it when a client says, 'This is my favorite part! You made it so that it fits me!'"

Whodid It Designs serves the Fort Bend and Houston areas. Most of Sherry's portfolio consists of single-family residences in addition to two or three condominium



projects annually. She also enjoys taking on an occasional commercial project because she got her start in the building industry by being the owner representative for a major relocation and construction project at her own church in Sugar Land 25 years ago.

"The multi-tasking facet of overseeing ground-up construction and then facilitating the 186,000-sq.-ft. church and school for 15 years prepared me for being a contractor. It was the best project management class I could have ever taken!"

Sherry acknowledged that her background in construction has helped her. "When I'm in the planning stage of a

remodeling project, it helps knowing how the house is constructed. There are not a lot of surprises for me. When I call my structural engineer, my plumbers, my air conditioning guys, they know that I know what's behind the walls. They trust me."

Juggling five projects currently, Sherry said she usually has two major projects and several smaller projects underway at any given time. The projects range from \$50,000 to \$500,000.

On top of her heavy workload, she takes on a charity project each year, "A project that centers around the home can change a life or that of a family, and that is an



investment well made for the greater good."

Sherry credits her start in building to her late father. "I grew up with a hammer in one hand and a saw in the other. I'm very mechanically minded. My dad always said to me, 'How do you know you can't do it if you haven't tried?' Although he's no longer with us, my mom tells me how proud he would be of what I've accomplished."

While she started in the design business as Sherry's Interiors and Drapery, she knew she wanted to do residential remodeling eventually. She earned her Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) and Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) credentials by spending a year taking courses offered by the Greater Houston Builders Association (GHBA). A member since 2014, she has been active in the GHBA Remodeler's Council – serving as its president in 2019 and will be the president of the Professional Women in Buildings in 2024.

She noted that achieving her CAPS had special meaning because she saw how a disability within a family could have a major impact on its housing needs. She watched her in-laws struggle to maneuver her husband's late twin brother, who had cerebral palsy from birth, in and out of a bathtub from a wheelchair. "I will try to help anyone with any kind of disability, such as multiple sclerosis or Parkinson's or any veteran."

She opened Whodid It Designs 10 years ago, choosing the name at her daughter's suggestion, because people will always ask Who Did It?













To contact Sherry Pruitt at Whodid It Designs & Remodeling, visit www.whodiditdesigns.com or email sherry@whoddiditdesigns.com or call 713-899-0307.

