## High tech lakefront estate in Bella Collina sells for \$2.3M

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Custom builder Keith Clarke and his wife, Stacey, designed this 2018 Parade of Homes winner in Bella Collina and lived there until it sold earlier this month. (Ken Winders 407-284-0299)

A former Parade of Homes grand prize winner in Montverde's exclusive Bella Collina golf community just sold for \$2.275.

Building the house known as Villa Olivia on Pendio Drive in the Bella Collina area was a true family affair.

"My husband and I built this house together, and I'm the interior designer and the realtor," said seller Stacey Spencer- Clarke. Her husband is Keith Clarke and together they are the forces behind Hampton Bay Homes.

The two completed building the home in 2018 and lived in it until it sold on March 25. They even got married there.

According to public records, the buyers are Armando Sebastio Rodrigues Theodoro and his wife Lucia Rodrigues Theordoro.

Spencer-Clarke, an advisor with Premier Sotheby's International Realty, says they are business people who are moving to Central Florida from Brazil. "They're such a lovely family. I couldn't imagine selling this home with how special it is to me in my heart, so these people are just lovely."

It was love at first sight.

While looking at places to build a dream home, the Theodoros came across this house online and looked at it several times virtually. Then Spencer-Clarke said they came to look at the house in person. "By the time they were out of the community, the realtor called and said we'd like to talk about an offer with you."

Spencer-Clarke says the new owners bought all of the furnishings (for an additional \$500,000) and don't plan to change a thing.

"I took my closet contents and that's about it," she said.

The house has four bedrooms, four full bathrooms, and three half-bathrooms in almost 6,000 square feet.

The primary bathroom has a unique design feature Spencer-Clarke told GrowthSpotter she is very proud of.

"We did two water closets with top-of-the-line Toto toilets," she said, adding she knows many people, including herself, who are sometimes shy about their privacy and sharing everything with a partner. "I've had many people tour this house and I can't tell you how many people turn their [partners and] are like, 'that's it, we're getting two water closets.' I think we've transformed marriages everywhere."

Everything in the house is sleek and modern, but not stuffy.

"We don't like contemporary design to the point where it's uncomfortable and it's like a museum," Spencer-Clarke said with a laugh. "We wanted it to be lived in and comfortable but everything in the house is very sleek and everything has a purpose. Everything gets put away at the end of that purpose."

For example, all electrical outlets in the kitchen's two islands pop out to use. The coffee pot and toaster are there when you need them and hide away when you don't.

Trips to Italy inspired the Clarkes to build the home the way they did.

"The way we designed it is because we both fell in love with Italy and we saw an elevation in Lake Como that we loved and we decided let's bring that back," she said.

They planted similar trees to the ones they saw in Italy, which definitely fit into the neighborhood of Bella Collina, which includes access to championship golf courses, resort-style pools, multiple dining venues, and many other amenities.

"I'll be very truthful, it was the house that attracted [the buyers] before the community," Spencer-Clarke said. "They fell in love with the house and toured Bella Collina and it just made sense to them."

The views were very important to the Clarkes.

"We really wanted to take advantage of the topography of the lot. We wanted to have views of the lake from every single part of the house, which we've achieved," Spencer-Clarke said. "When you walk in the front door you have floor to ceiling window views and in every single bedroom you have the lake views."

Even though it gets very hot in Central Florida, the outdoor space including the pool area and outdoor kitchen is usable year-round.

"It's air-conditioned with a drop-down screen," Spencer-Clarke explained. "We put the screen down with the air conditioning on and we utilized the space 365 days a year. No bugs, no critters."

The house is fully automated and even won an award from the CTA Consumer Electronics Association for all of the controls including a unique entertaining feature.

"We've got a dropdown screen in the master and a dropdown screen outside," Spencer-Clarke said. "Neither one of us likes to have a TV per se in any room so we have this screen that drops down and it disappears." The projectors are hidden.

While the new owners get settled, the Clarkes are looking for their next project.

"We have some ideas and we're definitely going to utilize and keep some of the same ideas with the dual islands, open concept, open doors out to outdoor living," she said. "We're trying to find a lot on a lake, which is a bit difficult these days, but something will present itself so we're waiting."