

inRegister

T.J. Moran & Judy Byers' Country Club redux

Go retro at the pool



No agenda necessary

Women find many reasons to gather—from supper to books—but the chance to relate is the tie that binds.

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Reconstructing a wreck

T.J. MORAN AND JUDY BYERS
INVIGORATE A HOME IN DECLINE.

THE VACANT HOUSE next to T.J. Moran's acreage in the back of the Country Club of Louisiana threatened to bring his property value down. It was in utter disrepair. So Moran did what every entrepreneurial spirit might do when faced with a property challenge: He bought it. With a goal to update the house to sell, Moran and Judy Byers delved deep into rebuilding and remodeling, but a few years down the construction line, they actually had a home they could call their own.

"Jim Bernhard told me to bulldoze it and start over," recalls Moran, smiling, referring to his friend, the president and CEO of The Shaw Group. "I should have listened to him. It would have saved me a lot of money and trouble."

Instead, Moran and Byers gutted the house, previously owned by entertainer Percy Miller (Master P). It had been uninhabited for a few years and left to rot. Moran and Byers ripped everything out, redefined the floor plan and doubled the size of the home to include almost 12,000 square feet. They reconstructed all interior and exterior framing, electrical and plumbing. Nothing was left untouched.

"The whole place was a disaster. We spent too much time taking it apart," says Moran. "It had been infested with termites; it had bad construction; nothing worked. Once we changed the roofline, that's when we realized that we were here to stay."

Originally, Moran and Byers dreamed of building a grand, Floridian estate on

By ASHLEY SEXTON GORDON
Photos by Don Kadair



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1. The two-story gallery at the rear of the home extends the living room to the outdoor living space beyond. It also adjoins the study and the master suite. The stone pillars mark where the house originally ended.
2. A new front walkway and lawn replace the former motor court and drive that once filled the entrance with concrete. Eduardo Jenkins Landscape revived the space.
3. T.J. Moran and Judy Byers