



The Dream Changed But The **Vision** Continues **At Home on Paul Lake**

It started with a napkin. At the Lakes Café. In Perham. "More coffee?" The waitress had been back and forth to their table several times. "Sure," Keith Swanson replied, without looking up from his pen and the napkin.

Text Merrie Sue Holtan — photography Bryan Wendland

As a dream and a house plan took shape on that white square-fold napkin, Trudy (Esser) Swanson and her Perham High School sweetheart husband of 39 years knew they had big changes ahead.

Keith had voted "no way" to Trudy and their four sons, who wanted to move their Blaine, Minn., business to a larger facility in Perham. He finally relented, however, and agreed to at least consider relocating Kit Masters, which makes fan clutches for heavy-duty trucks.

"Perham did quite the welcome number on us," recalls Trudy. "They provided us with a fast plan to relocate. It convinced Keith."

With the business plan intact, Keith and Trudy met with Perham architect Tony Stoll to develop a plan for their new home. Fueled by coffee and accompanied by a napkin house plan,



With every decision, Trudy honored Keith's vision and faith. Maple, cherry, ash, red birch, yellow birch and cocobolo surround the rooms from floor to cabinetry to ceiling. Eight wood-burned pillars divide the kitchen from the living room, which sets off the grand mahogany Petrol piano facing the lake.

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