

Bringing "Custom-built" to a Whole New Level

By Jennifer Molk

WHEN YOU THINK OF A BEAUTIFUL, SPRAWLING backyard pool with curvilinear designs and pristine waterfalls, you might envision your friends and family milling about whooping it up, or floating about quietly in ecstasy, washing away the day's stressors.

And while all that is certainly possible with a pool custom-built by Landmark Pools, Inc., based in Odessa, it is not perhaps the vision that owner, Patrick O'Connell immediately thinks of when asked what makes him most proud in his work these days.

The story goes like this: Soleil Design Build, Inc. introduced Pat to a family building a home in South Tampa. The husband had recently become disabled, and initially wasn't sure about building a pool in the backyard. His wife, however, was excited about it and wanted the pool to be wheelchair-accessible.

Five months after agreeing on all the plans, the pool and house were complete. On his first visit back to the house after completion, Pat walked into the backyard and saw the husband in the pool. "He told me he felt like he could walk again," Pat said. "It made me feel so good."

The challenge Pat faced in making a pool wheelchair-accessible is one to which he had already been introduced on a commercial level due to recent code changes directed toward the commercial pool industry that are now requiring wheelchair lifts to be installed in all new and existing commercial pools, bringing accessibility to a whole new level. By looking at its beautiful sinuous features in his customer's residential pool, one might never know it's handicapped-accessible.

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"More importantly," Pat said, "it led me to be able to design something that they really not only liked, but something that they'd get a lot of use out of. Now he has access to get in and out of the pool—by himself—and he's got his independence back."

Landmark Pools, Inc. employs over 20 loyal and skilled employees, specializing in custom-built pools. They have a complete in-house staff, including a landscape architect who will design your entire pool area including outdoor kitchens, spa areas and fountains. No project is too big or too small. If you can imagine it, they can build it. Call Patrick O'Connell today at Landmark Pools, Inc. at (813) 792-1331, and visit www.LandmarkPools.com. ❑