



Second Home Living Creates Lasting Memories for Families & Friends *at Deep Creek Lake*

Two families share why Deep Creek Lake is their second home.

Written by **Paula Yudelevit**
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For the Malandro and Yaffe families, owning a second home in Deep Creek Lake provides the perfect venue for their family and friends to share good times and preserve lasting relationships.

“Coming to Deep Creek makes our family closer,” says Rebecca Yaffe, WVU student and daughter of Eileen and Rick Yaffe, homeowners in Wisp Resort’s Kendall Camp community. “Maybe because it’s less hectic and so much fun.” She and her twin brother, Brad, along with Eileen, Rick, their three dogs, and a slew of assorted family and friends, spend every weekend in the winter skiing and snowboarding at Wisp Resort. Oldest son, Ryan, a paramedic, comes whenever he can get away. “Our home is right on the slopes so I can practically roll out of bed and hit the trails,” says Brad, a junior at Towson State University. “We never leave from Christmas until the end of our school break,” says Rebecca. “We have a routine. Ski, movie, Wal-Mart!” This very close-knit family from Owings Mills, Maryland, also spends evenings playing board games and Wii’s Dance Revolution. Summertime includes walking across the street for white water rafting at Adventure Sports Center Inter-

national, biking and hiking down and up the Main Street slope at Wisp. “We also just like to relax,” says Rebecca. “I don’t think there’s a season we don’t love,” adds Eileen.

With a combined total of 10 siblings, Eileen and Rick always have a full house. “We like to bring as many friends and family members as we can,” explains Eileen. And because of that, the Yaffe’s are now building a five-bedroom home in Highline, a community adjacent to Kendall Camp. The new home is expected to be finished in February. “There’s a line of people waiting to come.”

Joe and Lorraine Malandro of Warren, New Jersey, built their five bedroom, three-story home in the Stillwater community, and it is typically full of family and friends. “We’re here every second or third weekend on average,” says Joe. Daughter Lisa, and sons Jason and Andrew, come as often as possible. “Lisa lives in New York, Andrew in Philadelphia, and Jason in New Jersey with his wife and seven month old son,” Joe explains. “This is such a relaxing place for our family to congregate and reunite.” Bailey, the Malandro’s 14 year-old West Highland terrier, is always in tow.



Joe and Lorraine Malandro at home at Deep Creek Lake, a world away from their New Jersey residence.

Enjoying the company of his family and friends is important to Joe. He is President and COO of a heavy construction company that builds tunnels, bridges, subway stations and many other heavy construction projects. Most notable for Joe is building the foundations for the 9-11 Memorial at the World Trade Center site. “You may not see our contributions to the memorial, but these 65’ below grade multiple-level foundations are the core of the permanent structure,” says Joe. “I was working on a foundation job across the river in New Jersey on that day and watched as the planes hit and the buildings fell. It’s something I will never forget,” says Joe. “Although we were always close, it made me reevaluate the importance of family.” Five years after 9-11, Joe and his partners relocated bedrock from the World Trade Center Towers foundations to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA, to incorporate in their memorial. “We brought two large baskets of rock from Tower One & Tower Two to the Flight 93 Memorial site to link the two sites together.”

While Joe and Lorraine enjoy strolling through Oakland, antiquing, nature walks and dining at the local restaurants,

their family is a bit more adventurous. “My wife and I don’t ski, but the kids do, plus snowboard, waterski, mountain coaster, hike, and pretty much any other outdoor activity the area has to offer,” says Joe. “The Autumn Glory Festival weekend is one of our favorite times to come. Our house is full of family and friends who come to enjoy the activities and the beauty of the season.”

The Malandro’s and Yaffe’s both discovered Deep Creek Lake through their friends.

In the late 1990s, the Malandro’s were invited to Accident, Maryland, by friends who were building their retirement home, which Joe was helping design. “I remember my wife telling me that we’re going on a trip to see the construction of our friends’ house,” says Joe. “I was practically thrown into the back of their Suburban and it was snowing like crazy. Five hours later we pull up to this place at two in the morning covered in 12 inches of snow. We lit the two woodstoves to keep warm because there was no central heat at the time, and then went to bed. I had no clue where I was,” he chuckles. The Malandro’s came back periodically to visit



Brad, Eileen, and Rebecca Yaffe at Kendall Camp, with inset of husband, Rick.

their friends and fell in love with the area. “We purchased a lot in Stillwater in 2005, started building in 2006 and took residency in December of 2007.” Joe had a design for the house in mind and worked with a local architect to perfect his vision. “I picked a lot that had an ample slope to make my design idea work,” he adds.

When the Yaffe’s started coming here and staying with friends over 18 years ago, they knew this would be a great place for their own family and friends. After looking for the perfect location for seven years, Eileen ventured to the top of Wisp mountain and found her dream location. “I looked at the view and it took my breath away,” she exclaimed. “We bought at Kendall Camp from the architectural plans.” Rebecca and Brad bring as many as five friends at a time

while Ryan tries to get here as often as possible. “Our German exchange student from years past has been here twice and loves it. She has commented that it’s actually nicer here than the Alps!”

For the Malandro’s and the Yaffe’s, owning a second home in Deep Creek Lake provides them the opportunity to share unconditional time with family and friends. Like many who have purchased second homes here, enjoying all that Deep Creek has to offer, the ability to relax and enjoy each other’s company, and building memories seems to resonate. Eileen Yaffe sums it up... “I am looking forward to having all the kids and our extended family here this fall, playing a game of football outside our door with the ski slopes as our backdrop.”

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Ruth Seib, Broker and co-owner of Coldwell Banker Deep Creek Realty says that she has often spoken with buyers who choose Deep Creek Lake not just for its beauty and recreational opportunity, but also because it is centrally located for families spread through Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, and Ohio. "People are excited that their vacation home will be a gathering point for family. My own family built a home in Sky Valley where for years, we celebrated holidays with aunts, uncles, and cousins from all over. We made a lot of family memories!"

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