## What We LOVE About Our Home

Our lake house gives us joy. It just feels good...and happy. We painted it a beautiful yellow. It matches the Daylilies swaying in the breeze in the front yard during the summer.

We love our house for so many reasons. To sit on the porch, or even indoors, and just be mesmerized by the water is relaxing. The houses across the cove are interesting and we watch the leaves change color as the seasons come and go.

The birds love the water. Huge flocks of pelicans stop on the lake during migration season. The large grey herons are fish-hunting experts. If we are really lucky, a rare Kingfisher or a Little Green Heron alight on the dock. We have even seen Bald Eagles during the last few years.

There is a spectacular coral tree in the yard. Many times a year it blooms with flaming orange-red flowers. There is also a 5-year old Redbud that we planted ourselves. It is the last to bloom each year and we worry until we see the first buds each Spring. It is going to be a beauty.

We love having access to the water and all the fun it brings. We have taught many children (and adults) to ski. How fun and rewarding! Recently we ran into a young man and his girlfriend who we didn't recognize. The young man stopped my husband and said, "hey, I am Tim's friend. You taught me how to ski at your lake house when I was 10!". Everyone remembers who taught them to ski. My husband even taught me to ski here.

Sunsets here are indescribable. We watch from the top of the boathouse, or take the boat onto the water. We have dozens (and dozens!) of pictures.

It is great fun to float in the water right in front of the house. We get a rope and tie the floaties together and then to the dock. It is a perfect way to spend a late afternoon in the heat of the summer. While floating, we watch boats pulling skiers or wake boarders and jet skiers enjoying the Texas summer.

The sky here is very dark. We love to go to the top of the boathouse to stargaze. We lie on our backs and watch the night sky. The stars are so bright and clear. For most of the year, we can see Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn. Look long enough and we are sure to see a shooting star. Some are incredible!

We love having huge front windows. It makes the house feel so bright and airy. And it also brings the "outdoors in". There are Star Hibiscus in the garden bed closest to the water. They bloom huge red flowers all summer long.

Waking up at the lake is wonderful. It's quiet. The water is usually like glass. Sometimes there is fog across the cove. It is beautiful! There is nothing like having a cup of coffee or tea on the porch in the morning. The fishermen/women like the early morning too. It can be entertaining to use binoculars to see what they catch.

In more practice ways, our lake house makes for easy living. The huge Kroger Marketplace is close. The cute town of Montgomery is 15 minutes west with restaurants, shopping, festivals, antiquing... There is a nice movie theater a few miles away toward Conroe. We have only gone once in all these years. That tells you how much we love staying at the house!

A couple year ago our friends came to the house for the weekend. They brought a small gift which was a rock etched with the word *paradise*. I put that rock in a planter at the entry of the house. But we don't need a reminder. This really is paradise.