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My husband and I spent years of planning, research and thought making decisions about our dream house. I spent more than a year looking for house plans to fit the unique floor plan that would work best for our family without success. When it became clear that any existing plan would have to be extensively altered, thus incurring major additional expense, we decided to go out on a limb and have an architect help us put our dream to paper.

Finding Warren was easy for us. We simply took the recommendation of a contractor acquaintance that we trust, and made an appointment to see Warren with him. I realized immediately that Warren had the qualities I felt were essential to me in someone I would be developing a close working relationship with. His demeanor was professional and confident. He expressed a willingness to go over the vague scribbles of floor plans I had spent hours doing, and patiently considered the pictures I had torn out of magazines to try and explain my ideas. At that first meeting I could tell that he used his time and mine efficiently. He displayed a focused intensity that made me feel as if each idea was personally intriguing to him. He seemed to enjoy the mental processes he needed to employ as challenging and surmountable.

He made notes at every meeting with his red pen. I grew to "love and trust" that pen when we got deeper into the plans because he always followed up at our next meeting with a solution that combined the essentials of my ideas with practicality. One of the most useful techniques he used with me was to present several options, including the one I (thought I) wanted until seeing his alternative options. The options he presented were always every possible configuration of the problem, and instead of choosing one for me, he helped me walk through each plan and allowed me to make my own decision. When I asked what he thought about my choice, he was always honest. I knew the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Yet he was always willing to show me which option he favored and explained why. The few times I overruled his advice; I usually called the next day and renegeed.

Personally, the most difficult thing for me was to choose only one of the creative exterior elevations Warren presented to me. His visions for the first impression of my home to someone approaching it were all lovely and tasteful. It is amazing to me that a person so technical has such a sense of beauty and creativity. The only suggestion I would make if you are undecided about choosing him is to ask to see some of the projects he did during his architectural education at UF. I have heard that it is one of the best schools in the country for this major, and more difficult to be accepted for and complete than medical, dental or veterinary school. He is one in a million.

I assure you that you can make your choice with confidence. Be assured that Warren will give you the best possible options to help you through the sometimes frightening process of literally "starting from scratch". Your dream can become a reality, too!

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