





fter a Fourth of July weekend in 2019, Tom and Chris Glavine were on their deck at Alys Beach, enjoying a last view of the Gulf before heading back to Atlanta, and he said, Why are we leaving here, exactly? The family of seven—now with some children grown but 12-year-old Kienan still in school—soon started pondering how to make life on 30A a year-round thing. In 2020, they switched to full-time coastal life.

Their custom-built house was part of the draw, of course. Chris had patiently waited for a prime lot in Alys Beach to become available, and she knew from the start that she wanted the town architects, Marieanne Khoury-Vogt and Erik Vogt, to design their home. "I'm still in awe of the beauty of Alys," says Chris. "To me, it's Greece meets Morocco meets Bermuda. I'm still noticing some architectural details for the first time when we drive through." The architects created a three-story design that maximized views of the ocean in a relatively small footprint and incorporated some trademark

features: private courtyards, dramatic ceilings, Venetian plaster walls, and a stuccoed exterior that reflects the hues of the sun as it rises and sets. To break up the mostly white look of an AB house, they warmed it up with wood: African mahogany on the exterior and white oak inside.

The family's interior designer from Atlanta, Dana Lynch, was thrilled to step in and go to work with her favorite color palette of sophisticated neutrals. "Design-wise, Dana and I had a mutual 'no shells' policy," jokes Chris, "Not that we don't love shells, but we didn't want an expected beachy decor. We both wanted earthy/organic meets a little rock 'n' roll, and Dana delivered big-time."

Life along 30A suits Chris and her base-ball-star husband just fine, with their involvement in local schools, deep-sea fishing, and two dogs to keep them busy. They're already pondering ideas for a different sort of beach place that suits their next phase of life, but the Panhandle location won't change much. "We've committed to making this paradise our full-time home," she says.



TOP | Wooden shutters can be pulled back for an ocean view—and breeze—in a sitting area in the primary bedroom.
Daybed is from Lee Industries.

ABOVE | Chris and Tom Glavine met in 1989 in West Palm Beach, where Tom was at Atlanta Braves spring training and Chris was with Home Depot corporate; they didn't date until 1997 and married in '98. Their family includes (Lto R): Peyton, Mason, Kienan, Amber, and Jonathan. Tom is a Hall of Fame pitcher and was the MVP of the 1995 World Series.

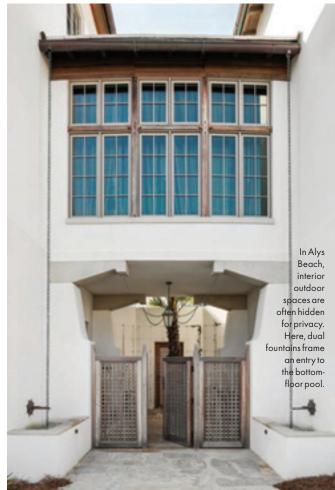






ABOVE | A narrow space in the kitchen can hold decorative kitchen items, thanks to this custom open shelving by Dana Lynch Designs.







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-CHRIS GLAVINE





OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT | A chandelier made from leather fringe is a standout in the primary bathroom, anchored by stone sinks and a tub from Australian-based Apaiser. Easy-to-move metal drink tables ("A must in every room these days," says the designer) are from Dixon Rye.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM

LEFT | The other side of the primary bedroom sitting area was designed for private places to relax for Chris and Tom.

OPPOSITE, TOPRIGHT

Custom bunk beds designed by Khoury-Vogthave

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT Lynch had this

custom tribal-patterned headboard made from rugs even covering an existing window to add height and drama.







