



# No Place Like HOME

By Lindsay Cuomo

**A Tulsa native leaves 20-year career to open a home furnishings store.**

It took a about half a second for Lori Neel Sparkman to decide opening Richard Neel Home was her ticket back home to Oklahoma.

“Richard, (my brother), called me and said, ‘Hey, I just saw a store front space for rent in (Tulsa’s) Brookside, do you want to move here and open a contemporary home furnishings store together?’” recalls Sparkman. “I sold (my) house, left my advertising career of 20 years and was here within a couple months.”

With a background in graphic design, Sparkman has always had an eye for design. Paired with her brother’s extensive interior design experience, the partnership was a no-brainer.

“Richard and I are a lot alike and work well together. We have a sensibility for combining classic, contemporary styles with pieces our client might already have, creating warm and livable spaces,” says Sparkman. “There is nothing more rewarding than knowing you have helped someone solve a problem, even if it is giving them directions somewhere else.”

Sparkman says she has learned a lot about

design from her brother and sees every day as an opportunity to learn more from her seasoned partner.

“Richard said one thing to me early on, which really stuck with me,” says Sparkman. “Your most important job is to listen to your client.”

“We strive to help each client achieve the most from their living space and turn their vision into a reality,” promises Sparkman. “We want to transform our client’s ideas into an individual look that is theirs alone.”

Richard Neel Home offers clean, classic styles that stand the test of time. They also carry environmentally friendly pieces from Team 7, EComfort, Tema and White Loft.

“It’s the right thing to do and makes our customers feel even better about what they are buying,” says Sparkman. “This is a time where our society is simplifying, desiring less stuff in their life and homes, so it is critical that all aspects of a purchase are addressed.”

“Our mantra is, ‘If I walked into the store, and saw this item, would I look at the price tag and be amazed that it costs less than I thought,’” explains Sparkman. “Everyone has had that happen. We want it to happen to our customers time and again.”

Richard Neel Home is located at 3742 S. Peoria in Tulsa. 🇺🇸

## TERRA PAD

A locally owned company has been providing recreation solutions to clients all over the country for two decades.

Tulsa-based Terra Pad Recreation Solutions specializes in the design, sale and installation of commercial playgrounds, aquatics, site furnishings, surfacing, ironworks, pavilions and solar shade systems nationwide. Products sold by Terra Pad include surfacing solutions, playground equipment, shade products, site amenities and awnings and pavilions.

To date, Terra Pads can be seen in more than 30 states, as well as Mexico and Canada, at municipal parks, school playgrounds, churches and daycares. Terra Pad was responsible for the installation of the Tulsa Drillers Picnic Zone recently installed at Tulsa’s new downtown ballpark, ONEOK Field. Recent projects have included:

- Tulsa Zoo Elephant Exhibit
- University of Tulsa Tennis Center
- Fort Worth Zoo MOLA Outdoor Learning Center
- LaFortune Tennis Center
- Phil Welch Stadium
- Harvard University Tennis Center
- Baylor University Tennis Center
- Tulsa Zoo Helmerich Sea Lion Center

Terra Pad prides itself on first-class customer service and a national sales team. For more information on Terra Pad, visit their website at [www.terrapad.com](http://www.terrapad.com).

