



## SIGNATURE HOMES OF COLORADO

KATIE LEWIS,  
JUSTIN GANZER

This brother-sister team started building homes in the Grand Junction area just a few years ago. But the experience and legacy behind their Signature Homes of Colorado business goes way back.

¶ Katie explains that their grandmother, Jane Marquiss, started building homes in Grand Junction, then went on to become the first female contractor in Clinton, Tennessee. "She was a general contractor and interior designer for 45 years," she says. "We watched her flourish and got our inspiration from her since we were kids." ¶ Growing up in Grand Junction, Justin and Katie worked for years on different sides of the construction industry: Justin as an electrical contractor and Katie as an interior designer. Together, they find they complement each others' strengths to the advantage of the client. "The way I look at it as the project manager is to see that we're creating spaces that work," Justin says. "I make sure Katie's ideas are flowing, and we're in constant communication." ¶ As the designer, Katie is on-site from planning and groundbreaking all the way through to furniture placement, if the client wants. She says the fact that they merge the designer and contractor function from the get-go means less confusion and greater vision. "We have the foresight together on the front end, so we're on target all the way through the end result," she says.

¶ Some told them they were crazy to go into business together, but with two homes and several remodels under their belts, they couldn't be happier. "We have a strong faith in God, who's pushing us – sometimes more than we felt was comfortable," Justin says. "Sure, we've had our disagreements, but for the most part, it's been fantastic." ♣