



Dan and Becky Niemann House
3212 Acadia Way—1990

Among the names on the rolls of Quincy's success stories is Niemann. From the establishment of the family's first, modest grocery store on South 5th Street in Quincy, the Niemann family has proven itself a progressive force in the Quincy community. Opening Quincy's first self-service food store in 1940 was a step toward their early "super markets" as they came to be called. All were precursors of their current grocery and retail stores, which now number 17 units in four states.

The Dan Niemanns, descendants of this industrious stock, selected a style for their new home that is both functional and practical in meeting the needs of their family of six, yet boldly progressive.

Since no book plans totally suited Dan and Becky, they chose the most acceptable floor plan and altered it according to their tastes and needs. Their builder was Tom Stupavsky. They opened walls, eliminated doors and added windows to the basic L-shaped plan. Stupavsky also altered the exterior—plans called for a Tudor style—to a contemporary brick and cedar pattern.

The two-story entry on the home's west conveys the sense of openness one finds inside. Balconies off four of the five upstairs bedrooms open into this area, and large windows above the entrance flood it with natural light. Just left is a sunken living room basked in sunlight from the skylights. The Niemanns' chose to forego the traditional fireplace suggested by the Tudor plans. Instead, they punctured the north wall of the room and installed a custom-designed, trapezoidal window.

That pattern of open space and light flows throughout the home's lower level. While the upstairs is traditionally enclosed and functional, the first floor exudes a positive, sunlit warmth with a free and open look to the future.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
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