



# Cabinet Comrades

By JAMIE LAMPROS

Standard-Examiner correspondent

**P**LEASANT VIEW — When John C. Lott and Brian Wyatt met each other in kindergarten 42 years ago, there was an instant connection.

The two boys had the same interests. The same friends. The same likes and dislikes. The friendship that began at North Ogden Elementary School has remained strong to this day, so it comes as no surprise they ended up going into business together.

"I don't think we ever talked about going into business together when we were growing up, but we worked together in a cabinet shop during our senior year in high school," Lott said. "We both went on LDS missions and came back and worked together again, but the economy wasn't so good back then, either, and the shops kept going out of business."

That's when the two decided to venture out on their own. In 1987, they took out a loan with a credit union and started Wasatch Custom Cabinets. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the business, which is now at 3145 N. Highway 89.

"We think a lot alike," Lott said. "It seems that as we are working, we anticipate what is needed about and we both just bust in and get it done, especially when we first started Wasatch."

Both men, who were married at the time they started the business, said their wives were very supportive of their decision and stood by them as they spent many long hours working to pay the bills with not a whole lot of extra money coming back to them. Today, they are all still married with children, grandchildren and a few cats, dogs and birds.



John Lott (right) and Brian Wyatt from Wasatch Custom Cabinets set up a booth at the 2011 Fall Home Show and Spa Expo at the Golden Spike Events Center in Ogden on Wednesday. The business was started by the two friends in 1987 and is nearing its 25th anniversary.

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"As I look back, I don't recall all of the tough times," Wyatt said. "I do know that there were some tough times. There is one in particular I don't think we will ever forget and that's when our business caught on fire."

An employee working in a spray booth hit an exposed light bulb that broke, Wyatt said. The filament from the bulb landed on the floor,

which had lacquer dust on it, and it immediately caught fire. Everyone left the building and the fire department was called.

"It was a huge mess but we rebuilt and have a very nice facility today," Lott said. "Over the years we have met a ton of wonderful people who have trusted us with their homes. We do our best for each and every client."

Most cabinets can be installed in a day or two, they said.

The most popular cabinet style right now is the rustic look in knotty cherry, knotty alder and knotty hickory. Color choices vary widely.

"There are a lot of them. If the customer has a color in mind and can get it to us somehow, we can usually match it or get it very close," Wyatt said.

Over the years, the two men have expanded their business and have added more employees to the mix. They believe their success comes from the pride they take in each and every one of their projects.

"We do our best for each and every client that we have," Lott said. "We have done work for a lot of people, some famous, but most

are just like us; good down to earth people that want to improve their homes and make them a little bit more personalized. We enjoy doing what we do."