

In January of this year, with my wife's 50th birthday only a few months away, I was struggling with the question, **“What would make the perfect gift for my wife of 27 years, and the mother of our 8 children”?**

Not jewelry, or a romantic get away, or a family portrait? I wanted this gift to be special. I wanted a unique work of art that would remain in our family for generations. I wanted to present her with our own Family Tree.

My search for “Family Tree Art” eventually led me to Pipe Dream Designs, and my introduction to Derek and Jodi Fultz.

Once I read their bio's, posted on the Pipe Dream Designs website I knew I had found the right artists for my project. I was confident that Derek & Jodi would devote the time, energy, and passion necessary to make my gift a unique work of art.

Over the next few weeks I was presented with several renderings intended to capture the look of the Family Tree that I had envisioned so clearly in my mind.

Once I saw that the level of detail was captured correctly the excitement started to build.

Derek and Jodi went to work, cutting, grinding, welding, and forming pieces of metal and affixing them to a stone base producing a beautiful Family Tree Sculpture.

Our tree has (2) intertwining trunks growing from a granite base (representing my wife & I, and the foundation of our family), (8) branches (one for each of our 8 children), and (4) leaf clusters per branch (to accommodate the number of grandchildren we hope will bless our lives).

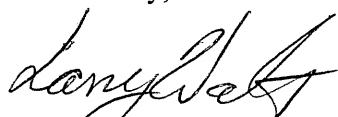
Each of our current family members has their name, date of birth, and birthstone affixed to their specific branch. Future spouses, and grandchildren will be added to the tree as our family grows.

My wife was thrilled to receive such a beautiful hand crafted, and thoughtful gift, which is destined to become a “living” family heirloom.

I smile every time I look at our Family Tree. I think of Derek and Jodi Fultz, knowing that they have invested a piece of their heart in this creation.

I owe Pipe Dream Designs my sincere gratitude for sharing their artistic gifts with the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Waltz', written in a cursive style.

Larry Waltz