



MEET CODY FARRIS

The Journey to My Home

IN NORTHWEST DALLAS

INTRODUCTION

Little did I know when I first moved to Dallas in the 1980s, that I would eventually own a home in one of the most diverse, accepting, fun, convenient and architecturally interesting parts of the city.

CODY'S FIRST HOME

My first home was on Buena Vista and backed up to the Katy Trail. At that time, “the Katy” was in its infancy and still being developed and improved. It eventually became a treasured part of our city and, in my opinion, an integral leg of Dallas’ trail system.

After living in that home, I moved to what we, in real estate circles, call Far North Dallas (seriously, because it’s north of 635). Between Northwest Highway and 635 is just plain North Dallas. It was a great home for entertaining, and the specific area, Briar Ridge Estates, had more of an LGBTQ-inclusive vibe than I had anticipated – one of the things I loved most about living there.

As they say, all good things must come to an end, and I decided that it was time to move back to a more central part of the city. I had been intrigued by “Loryland” and the 75229 zip code for years. You may know, “Loryland” was popularized by LGBTQ



icon Lory Masters. I had always been impressed by the contemporary home-turned-office on Cedar Springs that bore her name, but more importantly, I greatly admired her community involvement and leadership over the years.

Being in real estate, moving to this part of town was never about “drumming up business” for me, as we already have some high-quality resident realtors here. It was about a sense of community. I also know a good investment when I see it, yet there’s so much more. Another appeal of the Northaven Park area was that I had

read an article in D Magazine some years ago about “the best neighborhoods in Dallas” (sure, such an article can be subjective, but it was a great starting point to look around, if nothing else).

It was also a plus that this part of town is home to “the Disney streets.” I’m a mid-century modern freak, and as a little boy, I spent countless hours

constructing Lego houses, trying to re-capture Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Waters. I was living in a high-rise in Oak Lawn, wanting a low-maintenance lifestyle until the right "next home" came along. Then there it was – an extensively updated 1960's townhome where the HOA took care of the yard, and I'd have access to a clubhouse and community pool shared by only 32 homeowners. I had to go see it.

INSPIRATION AND FATE

When I walked into the Open House, the place immediately seemed familiar. I did a quick search on my iPhone, and it turned out that I had sold the house in 2003! No joke! Of course, back then, it didn't look anything like what the current owners had created. I was hooked, for nostalgia, if nothing else. Fast-forward to now and, as a 75229 resident, there are so many things I love about living here.

UNEXPECTED TURNS, LOTS TO LOVE

First off, there is a great Facebook page dedicated to a monthly Gayborhood dinner at Anthony's on Forest Lane, where during any given monthly dinner, you're likely to find a few dozen friendly, welcoming neighbors of a "similar persuasion". There is also the Northaven Park Neighborhood Association, strictly voluntary, which sponsors events throughout the year, such as the recent Easter egg hunt, Playdate in the Park, and the April Yard Sale. After purchasing here, I received a piece of mail about the association, responded to it, and quickly received a welcome call from a resident volunteer. How nice is that?

Nature abounds along the Northaven Trail, which meanders through the area. It features paved walking/bike paths that stretch for miles. Plus, Joe's Creek and Cox Lane Park are draws. My neighbors are friendly and range from newcomers to original owners. That, too, appeals to me. So, from moving here almost 40 years ago, to that Open House visit in early 2023, to being a new-ish homeowner in the Northaven Park area, I am so happy that life has taken this turn for me, and that I made the decision to call this my home. 

