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WATERFORD LAKES

Neighbors



Meet the
EWALD FAMILY

"FAMILY ROOTS
AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT"

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Meet the EWALD FAMILY



BY LIZ SALICA

In the heart of Waterford Lakes,

Bob and Tammy Ewald have built a life defined by family, faith in community, and a commitment to service. Married for 40 years, the Ewalds are the proud parents of four children and grandparents to nine — a vibrant family tree deeply rooted in the neighborhood they've called home for more than three decades.

Bob began his career as an auctioneer in 1992 and today serves as President of Ewald Auctions.

Tammy launched her real estate journey in 2005 and is the Broker Owner of Ewald Realty. Their professional lives are intertwined with a passion for giving back — a value system that's clearly been passed on to their children.

The Ewald story in Waterford Lakes began in 1993, when they became the first family to move into the newly developed Finns Cove 2 neighborhood, just one week before their son Trevor was born.

"We chose this area because it felt like a small town but with big-city access," Tammy recalls.

"There were great schools, it was affordable, and we loved the proximity to the theme parks."

Their four children — Travis, Tad, Trevor, and Talley — all attended Waterford Elementary, Discovery Middle, and Timber Creek High School (TCHS). Each carved their own path:

Travis, now a World History teacher and JV lacrosse coach at TCHS, lives in Eastwood with his wife, Samantha, and their two boys, Braxton and Nolan. Tad, an attorney in Washington, D.C., and his wife Marcy have two young children, Leighton and Holden. Trevor, a Lieutenant with the Orlando Fire Department and Vice President of the Union, resides locally with his wife, Ashley, and their baby, Cooper. Talley, the youngest, lives in Greenville, SC, with her husband, Seth, and their daughters, Ellie and Charlotte.

Raising four children was no small feat. "It was chaotic, but fun," Bob says. "All our kids were involved in different activities, so we divided and conquered." From lacrosse and swimming to debate, baseball, and cheerleading, the Ewald home operated on a steady rhythm of carpool lines, sideline cheers, and late-night family dinners — sometimes as late as 8:30 p.m. "But no matter how busy we were, we always made time for family meals," Tammy adds.

Being self-employed gave Bob and Tammy the flexibility to fully immerse themselves in their children's lives and the broader community. Bob founded the Timber Creek Athletic Booster Club in 2003, serving as its first president, with Tammy also stepping into the role. Bob was a founding member of the Avalon Park Rotary Club and served twice as president. Tammy served two terms as PTA President at Waterford Elementary, and both were instrumental in fundraising efforts, helping to raise over \$500,000 for local schools.

Waterford Lakes has not just been a place to live but a partner in their journey.

"This community pulled together during the hurricanes, helping each other secure homes and clean up afterward," says Bob. "It's always felt like we were part of something larger than just a neighborhood."

As their family has grown, the Ewalds continue to build cherished traditions. Their favorite? The "Secret Pal" gift exchange at Christmas. With 17 family members, each person secretly draws a name and buys one thoughtful gift. On Christmas Eve — or whichever day works for the whole crew — the gifts are revealed in a fun guessing game. "It's one of our favorite times of the year," Tammy

says. "It keeps things simple, meaningful, and fun."

Their weekends often included family outings to theme parks or water parks. "We had annual passes and would go weekly in the summer," says Tammy. "It was a great way to make memories together."

Even now, the Ewalds emphasize the importance of encouraging individuality in a large family. "We always supported their interests, whatever they were," Bob says. "Our only rule was that they had to do something active and be involved in at least one activity."

Their advice to young families moving into Waterford Lakes is simple but powerful: get involved. "Be present in your kids' lives — at school, in sports, and with their friends," says Tammy. "Make your home a welcoming place for their friends too. It's the best way to build trust and community."

Looking ahead, the Ewalds are hopeful and proud. With two of their children already settled nearby and actively participating in community life, they see the next generation embracing the same values. "We hope our grandkids grow up feeling the same sense of belonging and connection that our kids did," Bob reflects.

After 32 years, countless soccer games, late-night dinners, school events, and shared joys, Bob and Tammy's legacy in Waterford Lakes is one of unwavering commitment to each other, to their family, and to the community they love.

