

LOVE LETTER TO:

17 Oaklawn Road

Short Hills, NJ 07078

It is hard to believe that the time has come to say “Good-bye” to you, our gorgeous family home for the past eighteen years. We remember it was love at first sight after searching high and low for the perfect mix of understated elegance and a home where most kids would dream of growing up in a private Short Hills enclave. Since then, you have been the heart of our family life beginning from the day we brought home our newborn twins to this year when they graduate high school.

Born in 1928 in the new development created from the old Taylor estate, you were first among the stately homes built for an industrialist and his family in the neighborhood now called Woodfield Estates. And though you’ve aged gracefully, we wanted to bring you into the 21st Century without altering your handsome and graceful lines. The result was a two-year labor of love that brought us a new master suite, kitchen, family room, basement, gym, garage, outdoor kitchen, patios, landscaping and so much more. In your transformation, we enjoyed keeping with the home’s original architecture and exquisite details – plaster, doors, beamed ceilings, diamond leaded glass windows, stained-glass, to name a few.

Over the years, your several entertaining spaces have help to create priceless memories hosting countless birthdays, playdates, parties, family celebrations and holiday gatherings – both inside and out. The expansive basement easily accommodated the twins’ early activities and later became the perfect teen hang out. In summer, we especially loved outdoor cooking with friends, family and fireflies in our private “secret garden.” Our personal favorite has been the year-round porch for simply relaxing and enjoying the tranquility of summer breezes and winter sunsets.

Now, as we transition from full house to empty nest with so many warm and wonderful memories, we know that it is time to pass the baton to a new family who can enjoy your splendor and create lasting memories of their own.