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Dining Under the
Stars in **Style**

Photo courtesy of Walker Zanger

A Gathering Spot



Material donors and builders:

- Absolute Remodeling (Rick Norvell, Adam, Adams, Cory, David, Eric, Gary, Josh, Kathy, Ken, Matt, Scott and Killian Norvell and friends)
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A tree house is every little boy's dream. It's a make-believe adventure zone. A place of discovery. It's a place of marbles and X-Men. For Tyler Scott's family, Tyler's treehouse is a symbol of a little boy's hopes, dreams and their son's dying wish.

Tyler Scott, one of four boys for Howard and Dana Scott, was diagnosed and died suddenly of a rare disease called brainstem glioma. Days into his treatments at St. Jude Research Hospital in Memphis, his father asked him what he wanted more than anything else in the world. Tyler said he wanted a treehouse.

It didn't take long for friend, Killian Norvell, to contact his brother, Rick, of Absolute Remodeling, a prominent remodeling firm in Charlotte. They began to assemble a team to get Tyler's dream realized. They enlisted the help of Craig Cox of Cox Architecture to help draw the design and others in the neighborhood. Tyler selected a picture of what he wanted his treehouse to look like.

"It was a great treehouse and Tyler knew exactly what he wanted," said Norvell, also a father of four sons.

After about a week of treatments, the Scotts took Tyler home to Charlotte to say goodbye to his brothers, Chase, Bryce and Aiden. Before he passed away on February 8, the treehouse team showed the plans to Tyler.

Having the resources and 100-percent participation of his employees, along with the space to begin construction, the team set to begin work. In-kind donations from local vendors

began to arrive. In all, it took the crew about six long weekends including 12-hour weekend days to complete the treehouse in the Scott's SouthPark backyard. "One evening, we worked well into the dark, and many wives were calling wondering where we were, not believing we were actually still at the treehouse!" remarks Norvell.

The Scotts held a dedication for the treehouse as a tribute to Tyler.

"It's an appropriate tribute to a little boy who called himself a 'workerman,' because he loved to build and fix up things," said Howard Scott. It stands in the backyard for neighborhood kids to enjoy. During the dedication, the treehouse held as many as 20 kids. "Tyler was always one to want people invited over to the house. The treehouse is now a gathering spot," says Howard Scott.

Recently, the Scotts started a nonprofit called Tyler's Treehouse. The Foundation will raise money for brainstem glioma research and it'll also benefit local organizations in which Tyler would have been involved. Its first project was building dugouts for Park Sharon's baseball league. Tyler would have played with the team this summer.

A fitting tribute to this little "workerman." ♦



Absolute Remodeling can be reached by calling 704-332-4343 or visit www.absoluteremodel.com. Tyler's Treehouse Golf Tournament is November 6, 2006 at Firethorne Country Club. For more information or make a donation, visit www.tylerstreehouse.org.