

Angela Wilson Lee



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Introducing **Angela Wilson Lee** with **Wilson Lee Interiors** and **HER Boutique**!

Leah Anderson

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Angela Lee, CEO of Wilson Lee Interiors, is a full-service interior designer working with clients in Windsor Farms and beyond. She also owns a retail boutique next to Firebirds Restaurant in the Shoppes at Belvedere found at Robious and Huguenot crossroads. She designs out of HER Boutique where she enhances the living spaces of her interior design clients and retail customers by offering a variety of unique products such as custom furniture, window treatments, bedding, linens, clothing, accessories, art and gifts. Her mission is to bring joy to her clients through beautiful living and work spaces.

Her latest projects in Windsor Farms have included creating an attic playroom for young girls and a basement “man cave” with an industrial/sports-themed concept. Since her clients are now adding an addition, they have contracted her to be both their construction manager and interior designer; when the home is complete, she will have designed 100% of it.

With her 20 years of design experience, Angela has a gift for bringing together three key pieces to every design: Clarity, Balance, and Beauty, all with a foundation of functionality. Each project’s design is as unique as the clients themselves, assured by her strong listening skills as well as her innate ability to read a client’s needs, whether spoken or unspoken.

Angela designs both residential and commercial spaces, but she loves working with families because she always dreamed of having her own family as a child. When she was 8 years old, her mother was diagnosed with cancer and died when she was 13. Angela recalls, “I was always a creative child, but I found that I could bring joy to (my mother) by doing little things around the house that were of a decorative nature - things that she was not able to do - and it brought her happiness.” Angela says that at the time she didn’t realize there was



Construction



Boutique interior

a profession called “Interior Design” that allowed one to influence people’s moods and their outlooks on life through changing small things; however, she learned from her mother that she could bring joy to people through (enriching) their interiors.

It wasn’t until Angela met with her school guidance counselor and took a career aptitude test that she realized she had a gift for interior design. When the counselor suggested this career pathway, Angela relates, “I think my mom had been deceased for about five years; I had flashbacks to



Living Room - After



Kitchen - after



Kitchen - before



Living Room - before



Boutique exterior

that time, and I knew this is what I had always had a passion for.”

Angela believes that some of the saddest events can bring the most joy in the end. She remembers that many of her early hardships led her to be drawn to learning how happy families relate to each other. That is one reason she is drawn to the residential side of interior design. She was so intent on role-modeling after families she knew, that she developed a keen listening ability to hear, not only what is said and how, but what is not said. That has served her well in her profession.

Angela reflects, “I remember ... in the fourth grade, my teacher, Ms. Brown, had a daughter named Amber” (also Angela’s daughter’s name). “I was always watching how she mothered her daughter

and how they responded to each other ... I studied people very early on.” Angela says that when she met kids her age, she could imagine what their entire households would be like; their mother, their father, dinner conversations if they ate at the dinner table or not. Because of the listening and observation skills Angela developed, she says, “I (can) read what (families) need, all the unspoken things, what might be troublesome, what is great and working fine ... I can read all of that. So, I think that is why people have me back again and again to do (additional projects).” She looks at every new situation as the opportunity to build the best environment for the happiness of that household, office, etc.

Angela takes an interesting and personal approach to designing for her clients, using a technique called, “Evidence Based Design,” the science of how different colors and textures can change the mood and energy of an environment and the people who live in it. “Everyone is struggling with something, and it is amazing the little things that you can do within an environment to help,” explains Angela.

The best way that Angela’s clients can assist her in creating the spaces they desire is to just be themselves when she meets with them in their space. “Sometimes when I go to homes to meet clients, they will want to clean first, and I would prefer their home be like it is every day,” Angela says, understanding that life can be messy at times. It helps her to see what a family’s everyday life is like so she can help find the loose ends that aren’t just beautiful but are accent(s) to a family’s life. Also, Angela values the trust that her clients place in her. She respects their privacy to the utmost and puts a high value on confidentiality.

Angela gets a lot of her business through word-of-mouth. She says it took a while to establish her excellent reputation because “people want to not only know that you’re good at design; they also want to be pleased with the result before referring.” Her most frequent comments from clients are: “I would have spent so much more money if I hadn’t hired you,” and, “What am I going to do now that the job is complete?” This last com-

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ment generally leads to additional work. Of course, she also hears many “Thank You’s!” She confides, “I really want what I bring to the table to be life-altering. And when it’s all said and done, they can say, ‘It was money well spent,’ and ‘I would hire her again.’ That is my objective at the end of the day.”

Lucky for us, Angela’s story is not done yet and she has many more lives to impact with her gifts of beauty and design. Eventually, she did get the family that she always dreamed of as a little girl. She is married to a wonderful man, Norie, who assists with her business. She has two successful children, Amber and Malcolm, who also enjoy helping her when they are not busy studying at George Mason University. Also, Angela is very excited about a book that was released last December titled Woman Innovators – Leader – Makers – Givers. She is one of ten women being featured as it focuses on women in business and the obstacles that have been overcome to be successful.

Wilson Lee Interiors services all of Virginia, Washington, DC, and Maryland areas through their traditional services. Their online “Designer Matchmaker” application allows them to serve clients wherever they reside: Atlanta, Orlando, New York, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Portland,



Angela's Family

Charleston even internationally! HER Boutique is open Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Angela and her staff hope to use their knowledge and talent to create an elegant, timeless space that will be as much of a joy and a blessing to clients as their clients are to them.

“Until one has loved an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened.”
- Anatole France



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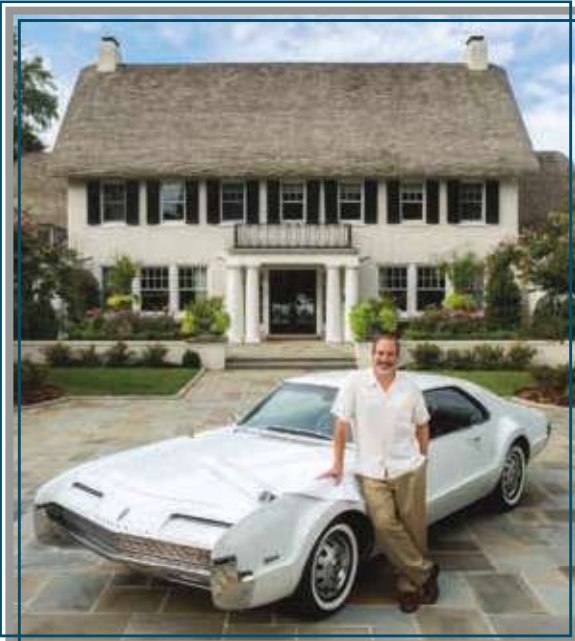
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