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An East Hampton home built by Ben Krupinski Builder. / Photo by Jeff Heatley

Long-time staffers take over Krupinski contracting firm

By: David Winzelberg July 9, 2018

Comments Off on Long-time staffers take over Krupinski contracting firm

Two long-time employees of an East End contracting company are its new owners after the firm's founder perished in a plane crash last month.

Stratton Schellinger and Ray Harden have bought Ben Krupinski Builder and are taking over the business that has specialized in high-end residential construction, according to a company statement. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Ben Krupinski, known as homebuilder to the stars in the Hamptons, was killed when his plane plummeted into the ocean off an East Hampton beach on June 2. Three others, Krupinski's wife Bonnie, his grandson William Maerov and the plane's pilot Jon Dollard, also died in the crash.

Schellinger, who has worked at the company for 31 years, and Harden, who's worked there for 16 years, both worked closely with Krupinski and say they will carry his legacy forward.

"We will honor Ben's legacy through our mutual passion and mission to deliver consistent excellence to our clients in the Hamptons, Manhattan, Westchester and Connecticut," Schellinger said in the statement.

Founded in 1986, the company has built homes for many of the rich and famous denizens of the Hamptons, including Billy Joel, Christie Brinkley, Martha Stewart and several other notable clients.

"Our clients appreciate that we understand the importance of their privacy," Harden said in the statement. "We will continue to give them the security they value. We will also continue our aggressive approach to each project with the same energy and commitment to deliver projects on time and to budget."

Besides its homebuilding prowess, the firm has also been involved in several public projects, including constructing the Parrish Art Museum in Water Mill, renovating Guild Hall for Visual and Performing Arts in East Hampton, building the children's wing of East Hampton Library and rebuilding Scoville Community Hall in Amagansett.

The new owners say the firm will continue to maintain its three offices in East Hampton, Southampton and Greenwich, Conn.