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COVER STORY

the Ligas *family*


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LEADER SPOTLIGHT
Andrea Wright

AGENT ON FIRE
Skylar Topper

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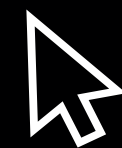
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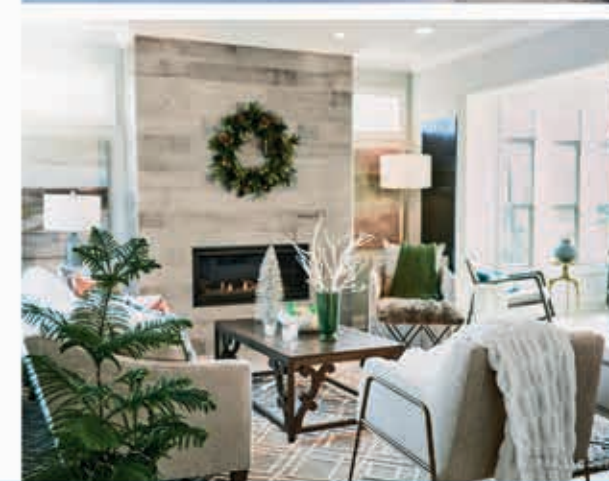
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INSPECTIONS

Protecting Homeowners with Integrity & Trust

Seventeen years ago, Brett Gordon, started his business, World Class Home Inspections and Mold Remediation, with a mission: to help families like mine handle the unforeseen challenges that every homeowner faces. From hidden mold to structural issues, homeownership brings responsibilities that are often costly and complex. Unfortunately, many people don't realize that mold—posing serious health risks—may be growing silently within their homes. Often, the repair costs are steep, especially for unsuspecting homeowners. This is why Brett is committed to providing top-quality property services at fair prices, ensuring everyone can access the assistance they need without breaking the bank.

In the world of real estate, a thorough home inspection is crucial. For many Atlanta REALTORS®, Class Home Inspections and Mold Remediation, serves as a trusted partner, helping clients make informed choices about one of the biggest investments of their lives. From comprehensive home inspections to mold remediation, water damage cleanup, and encapsulation, the company aims to be a one-stop shop for all inspection needs. As a family-owned business, they focus on offering reliable, detailed assessments that grant homeowners peace of mind and security in their investments.

Their motto, "Making a world of difference is what we do," reflects their dedication to quality and client satisfaction. Whether they're conducting an inspection or remediating a mold issue, they understand that their clients place a great deal of trust in them, and they take that responsibility seriously.

Brett didn't always envision a career in this field. Born and raised in California, he initially worked in corporate America, spending 16 years as a customer service manager. This role taught him invaluable lessons about meeting client expectations, fostering satisfaction, and building lasting relationships. Though he gained a wealth of experience, he eventually realized corporate life wasn't for him. He wanted to create something meaningful, not just for himself but for his family and his community. After some soul-searching, Brett decided to leave the corporate world and pursue a career where he could make a tangible impact.

Starting his business was not only a professional pivot but also a personal mission. Over time, World Class Home Inspections and Mold Remediation has become a trusted name in the industry, known for exceptional service that consistently

exceeds client expectations. The greatest reward for Brett is the positive impact they make in the lives of those they serve. Beyond home inspection and mold remediation, Brett is also an active member of Georgia Emergency Search and Rescue and the Gwinnett Citizens and Auburn Police Alumni. These roles allow him to contribute to the safety and well-being of our community, which is just as important to him as the success of my business.

Helping families find and maintain their dream homes is what Brett enjoys most about this work. Each inspection, each remediation, represents another opportunity to serve and support someone's dream of homeownership. In a market where larger companies often dominate, the

team prides themselves on the personalized, family-oriented approach they bring to every client interaction. As a small business, they run on streamlined processes, keeping overhead costs low, which enables them to offer competitive prices without compromising on quality.

One of the unique aspects of the business is that they provide two inspectors for the price of one. This allows them to be efficient while ensuring that clients receive the detailed, accurate information they need to make informed decisions. The family-owned model and commitment to transparency are what set them apart. Honesty and fair pricing are the pillars of their business and they are here to offer peace of mind, not to take advantage of people.





Photo by Allie Santos

“ MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO. ”

Working alongside his sons-in-law, Evan Sanders and Andrew Troino, is particularly meaningful to Brett. For them, World Class Home Inspections and Mold Remediation is more than a business—it’s a legacy. Together, they share a vision for helping people and upholding the values that have defined the business from the start. This team dynamic gives them a unique edge in the industry, blending experience with fresh perspectives and a shared dedication to quality.

Brett’s hope is that this business will continue to grow, eventually

allowing future generations of their family to carry on the work they started. His dream is to one day pass on the business to Evan & Andrew, and perhaps even his grandchildren, knowing that the values of honesty, service, and dedication to the community will live on. Brett’s family has always been his priority, and seeing his sons-in-law embrace these principles and work alongside him to support their clients is a source of tremendous pride.

In the end, the company exists to serve and protect the dreams of

homeowners. Through reliable inspections, transparent pricing, and a commitment to service, Brett and his team have built something they can all be proud of. When clients choose World Class Home Inspections and Mold Remediation, they’re choosing a company that values integrity and trust—principles that have guided them from the very beginning. As they continue to grow, they’ll keep striving to make a difference, one home at a time, with the same dedication and commitment that started this journey 17 years ago.

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Andrea Wright

FINDING FOUNDATION & FUTURE IN REAL ESTATE

By Elizabeth McCabe · Photos by Allie Santos

“I know real estate and I don’t have a backup plan,” says Team Leader, Andrea Wright with Keller Williams Atlanta Partners – South Forsyth. Real estate has been the one and only career for Andrea, who is third generation in the business. Recently, she took over Atlanta Partners Real Estate School as the Operating Principal, which is an impressive accomplishment.

“I started working with my parents when I was 15,” she reminisces. “My Mom was a developer. She built Walmart’s, Home Depot’s, and Lowe’s.” Answering phones and filing came easily to Andrea and it shaped her vision of the future.

Licensed since the age of 18, Andrea became a Broker at the young age of 22. Her natural ability in real estate was evident, even in her teenage years. “Like all teenagers, they think they can do everything on their own,” she laughs. “I did. I did new construction from the age of 18 until the crash in 2007.”



Finding Her Place

Andrea’s decision to join Keller Williams was a strategic one, shaped by her desire to build and lead a team. “After the crash, I started working at a local brokerage simply because it was the shortest distance from my house,” she says. She quickly gained momentum by working with land assemblages and resales, carving a niche for herself in a market with few agents. “I was handling the land, getting listings on new houses, and managing the resale side as well.”

However, Andrea soon realized she needed support to grow her business. “I went to my broker at the time and explained I knew the real estate business but not how to build out a sales team,” she recalls. After encountering Keller Williams’ collaborative model, she saw an opportunity. “The successful agents I looked up to were at Keller Williams, and I wanted that level of success and support.” 10 years ago, she responded to a Craigslist ad, initially thinking she’d be merging teams. Instead, she was offered the chance to run the franchise as a team leader. “It was a leap, but it’s prepared me for everything I do today.”

Overcoming Obstacles

Andrea’s path has been anything but easy. She and her husband, Seth, survived a devastating car accident nearly 19 years ago when their daughter, Alyssa, was only two. “Seth spent a month in the ICU. He was told he’d never walk again,” she shares. Despite enduring over 30 surgeries, he defied the odds and walks today. “We are Jehovah’s Witnesses and our faith is a big part of why he is alive,” she says. “

This experience taught Andrea the importance of grit and perseverance. “Grit and determination will get you through things,” she says. It’s how you choose to handle life’s challenges that determines your outcome.

Andrea and Seth’s daughter, Alyssa, has also faced her share of struggles, including a long battle with thyroid cancer. “She was recently declared cancer-free nine months ago,” Andrea shares with gratitude. Her family’s experiences have only strengthened her resolve. “Happiness and success are about getting better at making choices. It takes grit, determination, and being coachable.” It’s also about showing up and handling what life throws at you.

Building a Business with Purpose

Today, Andrea is passionate about helping agents build their businesses and take control of their careers. “Right now, there’s a huge opportunity for agents to gain market share, and I’m committed to helping them do that,” she says. Andrea knows first-hand how important mentorship is in real estate and is dedicated to providing agents with the support she once searched for. She also co-hosts a podcast, *Real-Her-Talk*, with other female entrepreneurs in real estate, where they share insights on business and leadership. “We started



Whatever you put into this is what you get out.
If you’re not seeing the results you want, find a mentor or coach who can guide you.



Family photos submitted by Andrea Wright



it six months ago, and it’s been incredibly rewarding.”

Committed to the Community

Andrea is deeply invested in her community, supporting causes like Kares 4 Kids, a local organization that helps provide school supplies and food for children in need. “My husband and I have been recognized as top donors for the past four years. Helping children matters deeply to us,” she says. Andrea and her family also support the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, which provides free Bible education worldwide. “Whether it’s through helping kids or supporting spiritual growth, giving back is important to us.”

A Heart of Gratitude

Looking back, Andrea is grateful for the lessons she’s learned and the people she’s helped. She’s proud of

agents like Joseph, a new recruit she coached from his first year to now, consulting him and his wife, Maggie, who are making over \$2 million in GCI annually. “Seeing others succeed and helping them identify gaps in their business is incredibly fulfilling,” she says.

If she could offer one piece of advice to new agents, it would be this: “Whatever you put into this is what you get out. If you’re not seeing the results you want, find a mentor or coach who can guide you.”

For Andrea Wright, real estate has been more than a rewarding career. “I love what I do,” she says simply. Her love for real estate has given her a career beyond her wildest imagination, proving that hard work truly pays off!



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the Ligas family

Meet the Ligas family, a dynamic, close-knit clan with a passion for real estate and a commitment to helping others find their dream homes. Their journey into the real estate industry isn't just a career choice; it's a family calling that has brought each member together in a unique way, fostering bonds that go far beyond business. With a motto grounded in integrity and a dedication to community, the Ligas family has truly created something special.

Each family member brings a unique perspective to the team. Lacey, who handles much of the family's business in Florida along with Wendi, hails from Cumming, Georgia where she grew up with siblings Jack and Isabella. Graduating from Lambert High School then attending Mississippi State University, where she joined Phi Mu and earned a business degree. "Growing up with my close-knit family has given me a real sense of community," Lacey shares. "It's where I learned the importance of connection and loyalty, values that we bring to every client relationship."

Chase, Lacey's husband and an integral part of the team, spent his early years in Taylorville, Illinois, before moving to Panama City Beach. "Architecture has always been my first love," he says, recalling his studies at Gulf Coast State College and his first job as a draftsman at A BOHEME, an upscale architectural firm in Rosemary Beach Florida. Today, Chase applies that same creative energy to helping clients visualize potential spaces.

Tommy and Wendi, the seasoned members of the Ligas team, both grew up in East Cobb and attended Lassiter High School. Tommy later earned a business degree from Georgia Tech, while Wendi pursued cosmetology school. Together, they bring years of experience and, importantly, a deep dedication to the family business. Wendi was the first to dive into real estate, earning Rookie of the Year in 2014. Tommy soon followed, selling his partnership in a telecom company to join her. They've been a powerhouse team ever since.

"We're so grateful to work with Keller Williams," Tommy says. "It's a company that aligns with our values: God, family, and business. The training they provide is unmatched, but beyond that, they allow us to market our own brand, which is huge for us." These values are more than just words—they're guiding principles that show in every interaction and decision the Ligas family makes. "Integrity is non-negotiable," Wendi adds. "We strive to leave a legacy of honesty, loyalty, and hard work. That's the foundation we've built, both in our family and our business."



““”

Growing up with my close-knit family has given me a real sense of community.

It's where I learned the importance of connection and loyalty, values that we bring to every client relationship.

cover story

Photos by Allie Santos



**Real Estate,
Relationships,
& Real Dedication**



Real estate is not just a business for the Ligas family; it's a calling and a lifestyle that fuels their shared passion for educating clients. "There's so much misinformation out there," Wendi says. "We're passionate about guiding our clients through the ever-changing market in both Georgia and Florida." Despite recent shifts in the housing market and rising interest rates, the Ligas family sees optimism on the horizon. "People are adjusting positively," Lacey notes, reflecting the family's ever-hopeful outlook.

Outside of work, the Ligas family finds joy in travel, fitness, the great outdoors, and each other's company. From relaxing at Lake Lanier, where Lacey and Chase now live, to enjoying the Emerald Coast where their son Jack resides. This is also where they spend quality time at their family beach house and make the most of life's beautiful moments. The whole family is looking forward to the youngest daughter Isabella's wedding to her high school sweetheart JD in May. Tommy and Chase are avid golfers and die-hard college football fans, while Wendi and Lacey love spending time by the water. And then there's Mac, Lacey and Chase's lovable rescue pup—a black lab-Pyrenees mix who has become the unofficial mascot of Ligas & Co.



"He brings so much joy to everyone he meets," says Lacey with a smile.

The family's approach to giving back is equally integral to their mission. "Our favorite way to give back is sponsoring local teams/organizations, hosting community events and donating a portion of all our closing to Kares 4 Kids, a local charity where 100% of the funds go directly to kids in need," says Tommy. "It's important to support causes that help children and families—these are the people we're here to serve." Lacey and Chase also volunteer every Sunday at Browns Bridge Church, helping young kids at Waumba Land.

The Ligas family's collective experience in real estate has shown them that every transaction has its own story. One that stands out for them was a recent sale involving a client with a degenerative disease. "It was so beautiful to see how our team and volunteers from around the community came together to help her," Lacey recalls. "From house maintenance to staging, everyone pitched in to get her to the next stage of life she needed. It was a reminder of how connected we all are and how powerful a little kindness can be."

When asked about advice for aspiring realtors, the Ligas family emphasizes consistency, focus, and integrity. "This business is simple, but it's not easy," Tommy says. "You have to show up every day, stay focused on the process, and trust that the results will follow. And most importantly, you've got to time-block your lead generation. That's the key."

For the Ligas family, the ultimate "superpower" is each other. They each bring unique skills, whether it's Tommy's leadership, Wendi's empathy, Lacey's business acumen, or Chase's creativity. Together, they create a supportive, effective, and compassionate team. "We're truly



“”

This business is simple, but it's not easy.

You have to show up every day, stay focused on the process, and trust that the results will follow. And most importantly, you've got to time-block your lead generation.

That's the key.


blessed to have this family team that works so well together," says Wendi. "Life goes by quickly—especially in real estate. So we make sure to slow down, look around, and be grateful for every moment we have with each other and the people we serve."

The Ligas family's story is one of resilience, integrity, and love. They've created not only a top producing business but also a legacy built on values that matter most: family, honesty, and service. Whether they're helping a first-time buyer or supporting a client in need, the Ligas family is there with open arms, ready to make a difference.

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SKYLAR

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» agent on fire

By Elizabeth McCabe
Photos by Allie Santos



BLAZING A TRAIL OF SUCCESS

Bold. Courageous. Determined. REALTOR® Skylar Topper with Team Toth at Compass Atlanta has all those characteristics. She is a natural in connecting with others with her charismatic personality. “Don’t be afraid to put yourself out there and strike up conversations,” she comments.

Skylar got her real estate license in 2017 and has never looked back. “My first client I ever had was my Uber driver,” she laughs. “I had just gotten my license and he was my very first sale. He wrote an amazing review, and we still keep in touch to this day.”

ROAD TO REAL ESTATE

Growing up in Johns Creek, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta, Skylar attended the University of Alabama, where she majored in communication. Her first post-college job took her to ESPN headquarters in Connecticut, where she interned on the social and digital media team.

“I helped create content for the various ESPN and SportsCenter social accounts for all their shows for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram,” she smiles. “It was a dream job, for sure.”

However, Skylar longed for more. “I always knew I wanted to work directly with people and build relationships in my business,” she shares. She decided to move back to Atlanta and get involved in real estate, following in her family’s footsteps.

Skylar’s love for real estate ran deep from an early age. Growing up, her mother was a solo agent, and Skylar often joined her for open houses and showings. In high school and college, she took on marketing tasks, like creating advertisements for listings and managing her mom’s social media pages. By August of 2017, Skylar obtained her real estate license, embarking on a career that was always meant to be hers.

FINDING HER NICHE

Initially, Skylar worked with a different brokerage, but when Compass entered the Atlanta market in 2019, they approached her team to join as founding agents. Skylar was impressed by Compass’s innovative tools and resources.



“**I ALWAYS KNEW I WANTED TO WORK DIRECTLY WITH PEOPLE AND BUILD RELATIONSHIPS IN MY BUSINESS.**”

“We couldn’t say no to Compass,” she says. “We were building something big by being founding agents.” The longer she is with Compass, the more she loves it, especially with the opportunities it provides.

Real estate, however, isn’t easy. “I was thrown into the deep end seven years ago when I started,” she says. “It was sink or swim, feast or famine. I had to hustle for everything I have accomplished.” Her hard work paid off, especially when she earned the prestigious National Association of REALTORS’ 30 Under 30 this year.

What’s remarkable about Skylar is that she and her team don’t pay for advertisements, buy Zillow leads, or do lead generation. “We’re 100 percent referral-based,” she says. “It’s years of relationships that have helped my team and I pay our bills and continue to grow our real estate business, and we’re so grateful for that.”

Skylar learned very quickly in real estate, nothing comes easily, and you’re totally responsible for finding your own business, meeting your own clients and forming your own relationships. “It’s not like what you see on the real estate TV shows,” she points out. “It’s just not that easy.”

“For a few years in the crazy market we just had, I think people thought you could stick a sign in the yard and your house would instantly sell. Those days are gone. You have to be so strategic in how you market a property and pay such close attention to the details,” she explains.

Skylar is deeply passionate about her relationships with clients, which are everything in real estate. “I want to be a resource for as many people as I can,” she says. Whether it’s finding a vet or recommending a painter, she aims to be the first call her clients make. A go-getter and a trailblazer, she knows her first few years in real estate were critical. That’s how she has developed the business she has today. “You have to pound the pavement,” she says. “I said yes to every piece of business in those first few years, even if I had to drive an hour and a half to show a house. I did open houses every single weekend. That set me up for where I am today. The first couple of years, especially, you have to hustle.” It paid off.

A BALANCING ACT

Skylar balances her role as a REALTOR® with her role as a new mom. Her son, Cape, was born in January, and she’s been married to her husband, Nick, for four years. “Being a working mom has been



the biggest transition of my life,” she admits. “It’s a whole new level of responsibility, but it’s changed my career for the better.”

When she’s not working, Skylar is very involved in her community and neighborhood. She enjoys playing tennis, meeting other new moms and connecting with clients over lunch and community events. She also likes giving back to others. Skylar and her team also make giving back a priority, donating a portion of each sale to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta in the client’s name at closing—a meaningful way to support a local cause close to their hearts.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Skylar’s success in real estate is living proof that hard work pays off. Networking, developing relationships, and learning all she could about the business early on was essential to being the Agent on Fire she is today in the Atlanta real estate market. Stay tuned for what she accomplishes next!

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