



Cody, Rachel, Thijs and David

## The Lloyds

Lloyd Construction officially opened in 1977 though founder John Lloyd was working in construction long before that. What started as a mom-and-pop operation out of the family garage for him and wife Carolyn Lloyd has now become son David's operation. Born and raised in Ketchum, David joined the company full-time in 2000, becoming President and Construction Manager of this family operation. Carolyn still works in the front office and John still helps with certain side projects such as helping grandsons Thijs, 9, and Cody, 7, build a half-pipe.

### WHAT'S THE ORIGIN STORY OF LLOYD CONSTRUCTION?

**DAVID:** My father grew up in Boise and he always did construction-type projects. When he moved here in the '60s,

he was heavily involved in building the Elkhorn condos. He got into a position where he thought, I can do better than that. He started to work on projects on the side and it morphed into a full-scale mom-and-pop operation. At the same time, he was working for the Forest Service in the winter as a snow ranger and managing heli ski operations. He also worked for ski patrol through the '60s and '70s. I have an older sister and a younger brother, so he started phasing out those other lines of work so he could afford to keep shoes on our feet. He worked out of our family house; our garage never functioned as a normal family garage. Those first couple years when we built a couple houses for ourselves, I'd be sweeping the floors and generally trying to help and watching my father work.

### DID YOU ALWAYS KNOW YOU WOULD END UP WORKING FOR YOUR PARENTS' COMPANY?

**DAVID:** I grew up with a real blue-collar work ethic. It



John Lloyd works with grandsons Cody, 7, and Thijs, 9, building a half-pipe.

was recognized growing up in the family that we had to contribute. I scrapped out the job sites, sweeping the floors, picking up pieces of wood. My earliest memories are doing that with my father nights and weekends and after school. Working with my father in an official capacity was first done when I was around 10 or 11 years old. I would work a couple hours a week, but it morphed around the age of 13 into working in the summers. I was basically a full-fledged carpenter by the time I was 17 or 18. I worked with really tough characters that shaped my personality, people that were interested in humbling me. I remember people nail-gunning my shoe to a board or getting bananas in my tail pipe and dead squirrels on my engine block – all kinds of crazy antics. I basically worked from the age of 13-18 full-time summers and then went off to school.

#### **WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE (BUSINESS-WISE AND PERSONALLY) THROUGH COVID?**

**DAVID:** Personally, I think we all have a responsibility to live our best lives. For myself and my family, we just chose activities that were safe and responsible and went at that 100%. A lot of that meant just being closer with each other, a lot of time in the mountains. My kids had a goal this summer to climb the five tallest mountains in the five local ranges – the Sawtooths, Pioneers, White Clouds, Smokys, and Boulders – which was over-the-top difficult for us. Business-wise, business was and continues to be a daily and weekly check-in to make sure that we're doing right by all people that are affected by our actions. If you really care for your employees, vendors, trade contractors, and community at-large, it's not binary; it's a lot of work and it's tiring. ♦