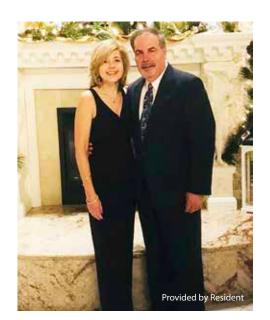




Joe and Linda Pettinella



"When my mother met Linda, she said, 'That's the perfect girl for you.' She couldn't have been more right," says Joe Pettinella of his wife Linda.

They got married on June 1, 1985, and have been happy ever since. Although they don't have children of their own, Joe and Linda have many wonderful nieces, a nephew, and godchildren who are "successful hard-working adults." Joe also has a brother, who resides in New York and Venice, and a sister, who lives in New York and Myrtle Beach.



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Joe is the son of two immigrants from Italy. He explains, "My father came here when he was 14 and my mother came here when she was 6, settling in the Bronx, New York. I learned about personal relationships from my mother and hard work from my father." His father was an excavating contractor and built a successful business in the '70s. His mother was Joe's real estate business partner. They built their business in the lower level of their home with two desks and two phones.

The oldest of three children, Joe graduated from Fordham University with a degree in Public Accounting before working for 5 years in public accounting at PriceWaterhouseCoopers. Then he worked in commercial lending at a bank. Following commercial lending, Joe launched into real estate, growing his business to 400 agents in New York.

He recently purchased Century 21, changing the name to Century 21 Coastal Alliance. The original owner is Tierra Verde resident Randy Ierna and they are proud to be celebrating their 40-year anniversary this year. Joe wants to be known as the Tierra Verde broker and is a proud sponsor of this publication.

Randy raves about Joe, explaining that he treats every agent on his team like family, which is the secret to his success. He genuinely cares about others and putting their interests in front of his own.

As Joe says, "It's very important to be involved in the community. The business of real estate is about relationships. It's about people. People will remember you for what you gave and not for what you took. Giving back is the very aspect of who I am." He is excited to make a difference in the community.

As for Linda, she is originally from Syracuse, New York. She majored in Fashion Merchandising and manages a Chico's in New York. When she isn't working, Linda likes to read books and is a fitness enthusiast. She walks 10,000 steps each day, watches what she eats, and frequents area restaurants with Joe. These include Island Grille, Billy's, Tony & Nello's, and DeRusso's. Joe adds, "I like the pastrami sliders at the top of the Marriott hotel. It's nice up there."



Joe loves sports and likes watching baseball (Go Rays!) and football games in his free time. He says, "I've got a tremendous man cave in my basement. Joe also loves working out and is planning on getting bikes soon. He also loves opera, Rock 'n Roll, and everything between.

Together, Joe and Linda like boating. They have taken many boat rides up the Intercoastal. Linda loves the beach for fun in the sun. This happy couple also likes to travel and is excited to go to Italy this year. "It's time," says Joe. They have been to the Caribbean, New Orleans, Las Vegas, and California. Italy will be a brand new adventure for them!

Joe concludes, "We're excited to be on the island. I loved it from the first day we saw it."

We are honored to feature Joe and Linda in this month's issue. Thanks for taking the time to share your story with your neighbors!









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