

backpacks and sports equipment), which the family quickly dubbed "the hole"-all crucial for keeping clutter out of sight.

THEN THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENED. Two weeks after the family moved in, the husband suffered a fatal heart attack. "It was a very rough time for our family," acknowledges the homeowner. "The girls and I were in a difficult place for a while." Helping her daughters through their grief became her priority. "I wanted them to see that we could still be happy and hopeful people, despite their father's death," she says. And though it would be a stretch to say the new house became a source of healing, it did provide a tranquil space for the three of them to recover. "One thing I can say is that when we came out of it, we were in this beautiful home together," she says.

Indeed, the house's untrammeled spaces seem to invite especially deep breaths. In the living room, the low-profile seating promotes an easy flow, and the walls-which have built-in cabinetry disguising a television and additional storage areas-seem to recede. Carter removed the kitchen's stainless-steel elements to create a more ethereal space, with custom counter stools that appear to float. For the backyard, he designed a patio with a small, jewellike pool, set off by



"White seems easy, but it's such a nuanced color. For this house, we wanted a true white." — Darryl Carter