METRO MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
MICHAEL MROZ OF MICHAEL ROBERT CONSTRUCTION



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HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS BUSINESS? I have always enjoyed building, problem-solving, and working with my hands. I was drawn to residential construction because every project presents a different challenge, and there is something incredibly rewarding about taking an idea from the planning stage through completion and honoring time-tested architectural principles in the process. Over time, that interest grew into a business focused on building and renovating homes that are thoughtfully designed, well constructed, and made to last.

WHAT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES DOES YOUR COMPANY PROVIDE? We are a full-service residential design-build firm specializing in custom homes and large-scale renovations in about 5 towns in Central/Northern NJ. Through our partnership with my wife's firm Ellie Mroz Design, we are also able to offer a fully integrated approach that includes architectural planning, construction consulting and full-service interior design. Our goal is to provide clients one integrated team through the entire process and ensure that the architecture, construction, and interiors all work together.

WHAT IS THE STORY BEHIND YOUR COMPANY? Even though I was building for my parents and neighbors since my middle school years, I started the business officially 20 years ago with a commitment to doing things the right way: communicating clearly, paying attention to the details, and treating every home as though it were our own. Over the years, the company has grown, but those principles have remained the same. Our collaboration with Ellie Mroz Design evolved naturally as clients began looking for a more cohesive experience. By bringing construction and interior design together, we are able to elevate the process and the outcome and provide a differentiated service.

HAVE YOU OR YOUR COMPANY PERFORMED ANY COMMUNITY SERVICE OR CHARITABLE EFFORTS WITHIN THE LAST YEAR? Yes, we try to participate in NBC's George to the Rescue as much as possible. Additionally, last summer we renovated and refurnished the teacher's lounge at Westfield High School, where Ellie and I both attended. This was a super rewarding experience. In 2026, we marked 20 years in business. Reaching that milestone has given us the opportunity to reflect on the homes we have created, the lessons we have learned, and the relationships that have shaped the company. We are beyond grateful for our team, our trusted partners, our clients and our community.



METROPOLITAN BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

YEARS IN THE METROPOLITAN BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION? At least 10 years.

WHY DID YOU JOIN METRO? I joined Metro because I believe it is important to stay connected to the building community.

WHAT WAS OR IS YOUR BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT AS A PART OF METRO? Winning 4 awards this year! Couldn't be prouder.

Michael Robert
CONSTRUCTION
A Whole House Approach to Remodeling

GOING FORWARD, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF FROM METRO AND ITS MEMBERS? I would like to see continued opportunities for members to connect in meaningful ways, share knowledge, and support one another. Educational programs are important, but so are informal conversations between professionals who are dealing with many of the same challenges. I would also like to see more engagement from the next generation of builders and tradespeople. Our industry needs to continue attracting talented young people and showing them that construction can offer a rewarding and successful career.

WHAT IS YOUR FEELING BEHIND MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS? Members helping members is one of the greatest benefits of an organization like Metro. None of us operates entirely on our own. We rely on skilled tradespeople, knowledgeable suppliers, experienced professionals, and strong business relationships. Our experience as part of the Mavericks, a team of similar builders grouped together through the NAHB, has offered invaluable insight and community.

HOW WOULD YOU GUIDE OTHERS TO PARTNER UP MORE? Start by building genuine relationships rather than approaching every interaction as a business transaction. Take the time to understand what other members do well, where they may need support, and how your companies could complement one another.

WHAT WAS OR IS YOUR BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT AS A PART OF METRO? We were thrilled to win 4 of Metro's Awards of Excellence in 2026. It was a true honor to be recognized for our team's work among some of NJ's most talented builders and remodelers. It was especially significant for me since the winning projects were all a collaboration with my wife's interior design firm, Ellie Mroz Design. I find that it's always valuable to see the range of projects being recognized by Metro. The awards are a reminder that the best projects are a team effort - builders may receive the recognition, but successful homes are the result of many talented people working towards one goal.

(SEE ALL 2026 WINNERS HERE.)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO—MUSIC, BOOKS, OR PODCASTS? Music in the truck, podcasts when I have time, and audiobooks on business and personal growth and The New York Times every morning

FAVORITE COLOR? Navy Blue

FAVORITE FOOD? Chicken Caesar Salad

FAVORITE BAND? Red Hot Chili Peppers

FAVORITE TRIP OR VACATION? Anywhere warm with my family

FAVORITE TOOL OR PRODUCT? A good old-fashioned tape measure and ChatGPT.

ANY FAVORITE PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON? It is difficult to choose one favorite project because every home has its own story. The projects that stand out most are usually the ones where we have developed a strong relationship with the clients and have been able to guide the home from the earliest planning stages through construction and final furnishings. I especially enjoy projects that require creative problem-solving, respect the original architecture of a home, and give us an opportunity to create custom details that would not exist anywhere else. Seeing a family move into a finished home and truly enjoy the result is always the most rewarding part.

BUILDING INDUSTRY ISSUES

WHAT DO YOU SEE OR BELIEVE ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY TODAY? One of the most important issues is the shortage of skilled labor. The building industry needs experienced craftspeople, but it also needs to do a better job of attracting and training the next generation. Rising material, labor, insurance, and regulatory costs are also creating challenges for builders and homeowners. Clients need clear and realistic information early in the process so they can make informed decisions about scope, budget, and timing. Another major issue is the increasing complexity of permitting, zoning, codes, and approvals. Strong regulations are important, but the process needs to be predictable and efficient. Delays and uncertainty create additional costs for everyone involved.

