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<https://www.wsj.com/articles/investor-david-batchelder-lists-newly-built-california-home-for-29-million-1488470041>

## PRIVATE PROPERTIES

# Investor David Batchelder Lists Newly Built California Home for \$29 Million

The co-founder of activist investment firm Relational Investors said he decided to sell his Del Mar home due to the death of his business partner Ralph Whitworth.



David Batchelder, who co-founded the San Diego activist investment firm Relational Investors, said he spent about eight years building this home in Del Mar, Calif. PHOTO: SAM CHEN

*By Candace Taylor*

March 2, 2017 10:54 a.m. ET

“Life dealt us a curveball,” said retired investor David Batchelder, of his decision to put his brand new Southern California house on the market for \$29 million.

Mr. Batchelder, who co-founded the San Diego activist investment firm Relational Investors, said he spent about eight years building a place where he could spend “the rest of my life.” But with his business partner Ralph Whitworth battling cancer, the two decided to close Relational. Mr. Batchelder, 67, put his ranch in nearby Santa Ysabel on the market in 2015. He initially planned to keep the Del Mar home and work part-time, but when Mr. Whitworth died in September 2016, “it didn’t make sense,” he said. He decided he would list the Del Mar home once it was completed.

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Mr. Batchelder, who is now retired and living in Pennsylvania with his wife, Sylvia, said he’s

never spent a night in the newly constructed main house, which measures about 5,800 square feet and includes a home theater, wine room and elevator. There are five fireplaces, including one outdoors, plus a fire pit.

Sitting on a cliff above the ocean, the Del Mar home overlooks Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve and has south-facing views down the coast toward La Jolla. The 1.1 acre-lot includes a guest house, which measures about 400 square feet, a saltwater swimming pool, a covered outdoor kitchen with a barbecue and a two-car garage.

The Mediterranean-style home is the one of most expensive on the market in Del Mar, an affluent seaside town outside San Diego, according to listing agent Eric Iantorno of

Pacific Sotheby's International Realty.

Mr. Batchelder's Santa Ysabel ranch is still on the market. Its asking price has been reduced to \$11.45 million from \$17.5 million.

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