Falls Church owner seizes on tankless opportunity

By Lacey Nix

AFTER MORE THAN 20 years in the plumbing and gas line industries, Edward Clark saw an opportunity others seldom were taking at the time — tankless water heaters. He says that 2003 choice changed the course of his life. Clark owns and operates A-rated Tankless Concepts of Falls Church, Va. He not only sells the water and energy efficient product, he also firmly believes in the benefits it offers homeowners and the environment.

"This is one of the greenest products in America," Clark says of the tankless unit he also uses

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Edward Clark, owner

in his own home. "It doesn't waste any water or gas — it only heats the water I use."

Sterling member Robert Watson hired Clark to install a tankless system in his home after months of research on the product. "The fact that it could save me a lot of money, take up less space and has a longer life span than a tank water heater made it an easy choice," says Watson, who adds that he saves almost \$25 a month on gas bills and \$18 a month on his water bill.

Although Watson received quotes from other companies, he says he chose Clark because of his knowledge, passion and no-pressure style. "He gave me all the information I needed and let me make the decision," he says.

Clark admits he's not a pushy salesman. He says he focuses on informing homeowners and offering them solutions to their current problems. It's a principle Clark learned as a child watching his family run a series of hardware stores. "Our job is to help, not to force," he says.

Tankless Concepts' hard work paid off in 2011 when the company was named "Service Dealer of the Year" by Rinnai, a manufacturer of popular tankless water heaters.

Clark is humble about his success and gives credit to the

two installers on staff and his stepdaughter, Linda Cahill. Clark says he's happy to have Cahill running the show as he tries to take off at least one day during the week to spend with his recently retired wife. Cahill joined the company 10 years ago and Clark says her emphasis on technology, growing the business and customer service has made things easier for customers. "She pretty much runs the show and does so perfectly," Clark says.

Watson agrees. "They do everything they say they will and don't stop until you're satisfied," he says.

For Clark, the work perfectly matches his skills. He holds a master gas fitters license and plumbers license. Clark says his favorite part of the job is hearing customers tell him how much they save on bills, how great the product's been and how much they learned in the process. "This job is all about helping people solve problems," he says.



Tankless Concepts

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Tankless Concepts won the Super Service Award in 2009, 2011 and 2012. Photo courtesy of Edward Clark | Tankless Concepts owner Edward Clark says tankless water heaters save his clients space and money on gas, water and energy bills.

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