

A portrait of Fulvio Codecasa, an elderly man with glasses and a warm smile, wearing a light blue sweater over a blue and white checkered shirt. He is positioned on the left side of the page, with the title text 'Pioneers' overlaid in white.

Pioneers

Pioneers

Codecasa: Two Centuries forged in passion and mastery

Two centuries of naval craftsmanship have etched the legend of Codecasa's quiet luxury. Fulvio Codecasa reveals how his family's tradition still shapes timeless yachts.

Written by Ottaviano Iacono / Images courtesy of © Codecasa



Codecasa: Two centuries forged in passion and mastery

In the world of yachting, there are shipyards that build boats. And then there is Codecasa — a name that has been shaping identity for over two centuries.

Founded in 1825 by Giovanni Battista Codecasa, this icon of Italian nautical excellence celebrates 200 years of outstanding craftsmanship, unmistakable style, and absolute discretion. A legacy that has never sought the spotlight, yet has always drawn attention for its consistency, strength, and timeless beauty. At the helm of this journey is Fulvio Codecasa, heir to a vision that has withstood passing trends and excess, turning each yacht into a true work of art. Today, he is joined by his daughters Fulvia and Elena, sons-in-law Ennio Buonomo and Fabio Lofrese, and grandchildren Matteo, Niccolò, and Chiara — representing the sixth generation of a family that has made yachting its life's mission.

In this exclusive interview, Fulvio Codecasa invites us into his world — a world rooted in memory, heritage, and

a forward-looking spirit.

What is your earliest personal memory of being inside the shipyard? A scent, a sound, a gesture?

I practically grew up in the shipyard, but from that very first day, what I remember most—alongside the sounds of the workers at work—is the smell of grease. It lingered on my hands even after scrubbing them with pumice stone countless times.

What did it mean for you to grow up with a name that carries so much weight and respect in the yachting world?

Carrying on this remarkable legacy in the nautical world, generation after generation, means shouldering many responsibilities. But it also allows one to savour the past as a series of carefully made decisions, bold choices, and unwavering determination.

At first, we built fishing boats and work vessels. But with my stubbornness and strong will, I convinced my father to steer our shipyard toward the world of

luxury yachts.

In that sense, I can say I built the reputation of this name myself, and I've carried it forward with pride, dedication, and a strong sense of responsibility.

What is the most valuable lesson you learned from your father or predecessors?

From my father, beyond learning the trade itself, I learned respect, integrity, and the value of hard work. But above all, I learned one powerful lesson: always be the first to arrive at the shipyard and the last to leave, to lead by example. Even today, at 86 years old, I still follow that rule.

How much has the world around Codecasa changed—and how much inside the shipyard has stayed the same?

The world around us, like that of many companies in the yachting industry, has changed a great deal over time. With the constant evolution of technology, new design trends, increased environmental awareness, and changing client expectations, the industry is in constant flux.

However, at Codecasa, some core

values have never changed: our dedication to quality, our passion for craftsmanship, and our respect for tradition.

To endure over two centuries in a competitive and fast-changing market like yachting, you need to strike a balance between innovation and heritage. The experience we've gained has taught us that reliability and solidity are essential to building timeless yachts and earning the lasting trust of our clients. These values are what endure, even as the world changes around us.

How do you ensure total quality control in an era dominated by outsourcing?

Total quality control is achieved through rigorous supplier selection, regular quality checks, and constant communication with external collaborators to maintain our standards of excellence. I personally inspect and supervise everything. If I'm not satisfied, the work is redone from scratch. That's how, even in an age of outsourcing, total oversight is possible—and how we ensure the highest quality at every stage.







What is the most complex aspect of building a superyacht for such discrete and demanding clients?

One of the greatest challenges is the level of extreme customization required. Each client has unique tastes, preferences, and needs, so we must listen carefully, interpret their desires, and translate them into a design that reflects their vision.

Every detail must reflect excellence and precision. That requires great attention, skill, and passion from our entire team.

Our yachts are fully custom-built—unique creations tailored to each owner's personality and lifestyle. That's why we often say our yachts are like bespoke garments: made-to-measure masterpieces.

Was there ever a moment when you truly felt that a client had entrusted you not just contractually, but emotionally?

That happens often—almost always, in fact. Time and again, formal contracts evolve into long-lasting friendships based on mutual trust and respect. Many of our clients have built more than one yacht with us. That is the gre-

atest reward of my work.

In your opinion, what does “luxury” really mean today?

True luxury today means safety, reliability, and longevity—combined with comfort, elegance, and cutting-edge technology.

Each project is designed to create an environment that offers maximum usability and relaxation, while also being aesthetically harmonious and refined.

To travel by sea should mean enjoying your time without a care in the world, surrounded by comfort and the pleasure of being with family and guests.

Have you ever declined a client request, even if it was financially appealing?

Every request is carefully evaluated to ensure it doesn't conflict with our values, safety standards, or the quality we promise our clients.

Maintaining high standards and integrity is essential to us. After all, client satisfaction is also built on trust.

If a request goes against our principles, it is simply not considered, no matter the financial value.

The Codecasa style has always been solid, understated, and timeless. How do you protect this identity in a market often driven by spectacle?

Codecasa shipyards are synonymous with style, reliability, comfort, and elegance.

Product recognizability is at the heart of our philosophy. We prioritize simplicity, quality, and attention to detail over flashy designs.

Our strength lies in building enduring yachts—creations that reflect our values rather than passing trends.

Loyalty is another key element: loyalty from our clients, who continue to choose us over time; loyalty toward our collaborators; and, of course, loyalty to the Codecasa style.

Is there a yacht in your history that you consider the perfect synthesis of engineering and beauty?

All Codecasa yachts are like children to me. I imagine them, then we design them, and finally, they come to life. Each step, from concept to delivery, is guided by meticulous attention to detail to ensure the result is both majestic and dependable.

Functionality, durability, and comfort

are more than just principles—they are our philosophy, our “family feeling.” Among all of them, the one that best represents our vision is the Family Day, a 65-meter motor yacht I had envisioned for a long time.

I wanted to create something with strong personality—something that would move people just by looking at it. I believe we succeeded.

What does it mean to remain “independent” in a market dominated by mergers and large groups?

Remaining independent today is no small feat, but for us, it is essential. Independence allows us to maintain our identity, make our own decisions, and adapt quickly to client needs—without being tied to the direction of a larger corporate entity.

It's a challenge, yes, but it's also what allows us to remain unique and flexible.

As my father used to say, “Companies work best in odd numbers, and three is already too many.”

Does Codecasa look to the future with expansion or consolidation?

For now, we are focused on consolida-



tion—strengthening what we already have, improving operational efficiency, and continuing to refine our core activities rather than expanding for its own sake.

Have you ever considered creating a smaller line to reach a different audience?

Absolutely. We recently launched the 24-meter M.Y. Vero, made in light alloy, with a bold personality and lines inspired by the 1950s.

Is there still a dream you'd like to see take shape at the shipyard?

Yes, I would love to see the Codecasa Jet 2020 come to life—a concept inspired by aviation lines, reinterpreted for the sea.

It's something never seen before in yachting, and I hope to see it sailing one day.

If you imagine Codecasa 200 years from now, what do you think will change—and what will remain the same?

I envision a future where Codecasa continues to grow and innovate, maintaining its reputation for excellence in

the yachting world.

What will remain constant is our strong family presence, which is key to preserving the company's roots and values.

Today, I work alongside my daughters, their husbands, and three of my grandchildren.

Looking ahead, I imagine a blend of sustainability, advanced technology, and forward-thinking design—while always staying true to our heritage.

The next 200 years will be marked, I hope, by the same passion and dedication that brought us here, and above all, by the unity and family spirit that defines us.

To think of the next 200 years is to dream big—but also to trust in our people, our collaborators, and our clients.

The Codecasa family has all it takes to write the next great chapter.

In an era of constant change, Codecasa remains a beacon of timeless excellence—where heritage is not a burden, but a compass. With eyes set on the horizon and hands rooted in tradition, the shipyard continues to craft vessels that are not only built to last, but destined to inspire.

Warmest wishes to the Codecasa family as they celebrate this remarkable milestone—and continue to shape the future of yachting with passion, precision, and heart.

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For more details, please visit:
codecasayachts.com