

Hoist

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attended on behalf of County Executive Lamont McClure, Beth Duysen, SBCC Director Nancy Kessler, SBCC President, Rosemarie Capone, Bangor Councilwoman, Derek MacMillan, Ben Moore Territory Sales Rep.

Menu was Hot Dogs, Burgers, linguini and shrimp in a white cream sauce and lobster and pasta. The DJ played some oldies but goodies and especially the one for Sherry Haycock Miller, 'Sherry Baby.'

5 Generations Of Family Owned Service

Miller's originally started in 1923 when Claude Miller began a carriage and car painting business in Pen Argyl to provide for his family; and his dream to create a legacy for his children. Miller's Paint & Wallpaper Store defied those odds and will celebrate their 100th year in business with 5 generations of family owned service. Two foundational pillars account for the longevity of Miller's success; a family ideal

of community driven unmatched service, and partnering with Benjamin Moore to offer the highest quality products. In 1930 during the great depression, Miller's moved to Stroudsburg and transitioned into a full supply retail operation, one of the first stores in the Poconos to not only offer white lead and raw linseed oil for the professional as well as fully support the DIY homeowners with newly available ready mixed paints and wallpaper.

The second generation, Fred and Ralph, expanded in 1937 with a second store in Bangor located on Main Street in Bangor, later relocating to the store's current location at 100 Erdman Avenue and taking full ownership in 1949. During this time they stocked the most in paints and wallpaper and correlated sundries of any dealer in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Fred and Ralph, who initially began as contract workers for Claude, only dealt with quality products they could stand by to ensure they would be providing only the best products to their customers. This hands-on approach to learning the industry was passed onto future generations earning Miller's a reputation for superior knowledge and personal customer attention, setting them apart from large national suppliers. Third generation Duane Miller, was born on July 7, 1937, the same year that his father and uncle opened the Bangor location, which became the core of the operation. Duane graduated from Bangor High School in 1955, and started attending Muhlenberg College on a football scholarship.

By 1957 Duane was working full time for the business and taking night courses in order to start his family. Marrying his wife, Janet Hancock and having 4 children by 1960. Miller's success continued over the next 16 years and in 1973 the third generation fully took over operations. During this transition Duane recruited his 2 brothers, Dale and Rodney, who both left their teaching careers to join and support the family enterprise. Fourth and Fifth generation family members would eventually follow in joining and growing the family business.

At one time expanding to six locations throughout the Poconos, Le-

high Valley and Slate Belt. Duane aspired to create a lasting legacy for future generations built on quality products, knowledge of the business and superior customer service. He was proud to pass on those values and traditions that has made Miller's a respected local business.

With 4 locations today, the Miller family still proudly carries on the family tradition of serving local communities. Of Duane's children, Don manages the Bethlehem location, Glenn manages Stroudsburg, Sherry manages the Bangor location and Lee does contract paint work. Rodney's son, Eric, a long time store manager, now in the field. Working alongside the family are long time employees Nick, Outside Sales Rep. Mike, Assistant Manager of Stroudsburg, Dalton, Manager of the Brodheaville location and Virginia, the central bookkeeper.

Customers can always count on Miller's to provide the best products and superior customer service for every aspect of their project.

While the Miller family joyously celebrates their 100th anniversary there is a lamenting undertone. Fifth generation Brent Caiazzo (Sherry's son) tragically passed away in 2020. Brent worked everyday alongside his grandfather, Duane, at the Bangor store. After 64 years of dedicated stewardship Duane also passed in 2022. Duane would have loved celebrating this momentous milestone with his family and of course sharing stories about the history of the business, as well as wonderful and sometimes absurd anecdotes gleaned from a tenure spanning many decades of change on Main Street America. Despite all of the change one constant is the dedication the Miller family has is to continue serving their communities.



Sherry Haycock Miller tells the history of the Miller Paint and Wallpaper.



L-R 'Chefs' Glen Miller and Joe Kessler



Sherry Haycock Miller, brale Miller call out the Raffle winners



The 'Famous' Slate Belt realtors Joe and Nancy Kessler