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Gelsosomo's Pizzeria: 'Like one of the family'

Commentary by Mike Truax

The menus and uniforms at Gelsosomo's Pizzeria read, "Here at Gelsosomo's You Are One Of The Family." That was one of the first things my wife Debbie and I noticed when we walked through the doors for the first time last Friday. In this day and age, where customer service has fallen by the wayside, it is a pleasure to run across it once more.

The moment we walked in we felt like we were with friends and family. From the hostess at the front door, to the busboy in the back, people were falling all over themselves to make our visit

a memorable one. It wasn't just us either, as we saw everyone receiving the same service and courtesy.

The attitude was contagious. It even extended to the other customers as they treated people at other tables like they were with their own party. Skeptic that I am, I kept thinking, "This isn't real. I know Allen Funt's son is going to come around the corner any second." Someone did come around the corner, and it wasn't Funt, but owner Tom Gelsosomo.

Gelsosomo was a frequent visitor at every table making sure that everything was perfect in every

way. In his wake was at least one staff member double-checking. When our order was a couple minutes late, Gelsosomo insisted that it would be on the house. We did try talking him out of it, but he wouldn't have it any other way. Even after all that, our waitress, Kim, gave us a 10-percent-off card, good anytime.

The funny part of the whole incident was we were having so much fun, we didn't realize our order was a few minutes late. We again tried to talk the owner into letting us pay our bill, explaining that we didn't mind the extra wait. He told

us, "I took care of it. No one got into trouble. I didn't holler, I just did that communications thing." The gruffness he tried to portray somehow did not match the twinkle in his eyes.

Was the extra wait worth it? Definitely! We did not regret a moment spent there. The service, even with the minor mistake was beyond compare. We have eaten at some of the finest dining establishments around, but none of them compare to the superb job Gelsosomo and his crew do.

The food? After searching my dictionary and thesaurus I was unable to come up with any words to describe how outstanding the cuisine is. The closest I could come is to say that it reminded me of the cooking my Italian Grandmother Michelina Rendina served me as a young boy.

The only thing I do regret is that I did not start going there in 1979 when Tom Gelsosomo first began. Will I return? You bet! Again, and again, and again... after all, we feel like one of the family!



Tom Gelsosomo



Duneland

