

Subject: Our journey with Cafe Sam
From: B Randolph
Date: Wed, March 14, 2012 11:48 pm
To: Cafe Sam <info@cafesam.net>

Cafe Sam
A Pittsburgh Tradition - and Our Tradition

My wife and I were married 22 years ago. My wife was born and raised in a suburb of Honolulu Hawaii. In a beautiful valley on the southern coast of the island of Oahu. We were going to get married in the Chapel of the High school my wife attended (She attended with current president Barack Obama (everyone called him Barry) and Kelly Preston)...Punahou. The same chapel where her younger sister was married.

After some wrangling, we decided to get married in the neighborhood where we were living at the time - Shadyside. There was a restaurant right across the street from the church where we were going to be married. Can you guess? Cafe Sam.

I have videotaped hundreds, if not thousands of weddings and receptions. So I've seen a few of these gatherings. I wanted to have something other than another cookie cutter day. Our reception was held on the second floor of Cafe Sam...a very intimate affair. We opted for a small/intimate wedding and a small/intimate reception.

We were married. And we simply walked across the street to Cafe Sam to have our reception. My mother-in-law brought coolers full of flower leis (flower necklaces) from Hawaii, and everyone wore them in the ceremony and at reception. Including Dan and Mary.

Mary and Dan were part of the celebration. They welcomed us into Cafe Sam like it was their home. We were welcomed like family, and have been ever since. It was a wonderful reception. We look back on that day with the fondest of memories. We're just trying to figure out how to look as young Dan and Mary do after 22 years.

The food at Cafe Sam never has to be second guessed...wonderful. After moving to Mount Lebanon we return to Cafe Sam every year on our anniversary - and times in-between. Our children have grown up seeing Mary and Dan from time to time.

Cafe Sam is an institution that's hard to find today. How many places can you find that last for 22 years (I think Cafe Sam has been around even longer) much less than have the same wonderful people there to welcome you?

Things change. It's the only constant. But Cafe Sam has been a constant in our lives that has helped us celebrate the most important moments of our journey, with people who have become family.

My kids know the names and faces of Dan and Mary...our family at Cafe Sam. My best guess is that this is rare for most restaurants.

If we want to make *sure* that we have a fantastic meal at a fantastic place with fantastic people (family)...Cafe Sam is the only place we go.

Mary...Dan...Thank you so much for the many years of you welcoming us into your home and into your family. It has been an Unparalleled experience.

All of our love,

Bruce, Cathy, Aaron, and Daniel Randolph