

John Salerno  
Betsy Tooker  
Carmela Marie/Tops Market  
887 Meriden Waterbury Turnpike  
Plantsville, CT 06479

Dear John and Betsy:

I am writing to thank you for catering our August 7, 2010 wedding. My husband Steve and I could not have been happier with the food or service you provided. As a matter of fact, if we had an unlimited budget, we would not have used another caterer under any circumstances.

As you now know, you came highly recommended to me by my niece and my brother,. You catered her wedding over 10 years ago. They can not speak highly enough of your food. Now I know why.

Steve and I met with a number of caterers before meeting with you. They spent a lot of time telling us what we did and did not want. While they may have a lot of experience catering weddings, this was our wedding, and we wanted to decide what to serve. Just because food is fancy doesn't mean it tastes good. It was very important to us to have a lot of really good food.

When we sat down with you the very first time, you worked with us to design the menu that we wanted. The prices that you offered were very reasonable. In the end, what you came up with for us was a fantastic menu with all of the food we wanted to include. When we left our first meeting, we were confident that we could entrust our wedding to you.

Although you had never catered an event at our chosen wedding site, the UCONN Alumni Center, you took the initiative to get in touch with them and visit the site. Once we committed to having you as our caterers, we sat down with you again to iron out all of the details. As a matter of fact, before we did sign a contract with you, I bothered Janalynne with dozens of emails and questions. I hope I was no Bridezilla, but I certainly wanted to make sure we thought of everything and all of my questions were answered. Janalynne was so wonderful and sweet and organized. Some of the vendors we dealt with were very good at what they did, but not good at getting back to us. The fact that you always did gave us confidence that you hadn't forgotten about us and our wedding.

A concern I had from the beginning was that my matron of honor has celiac disease and has to follow a gluten free diet. You offered to prepare a special meal for her. You even consulted with a dietician to make sure the way that you prepared the food would be safe for her to eat. She said that the dish you made her was delicious!

When I arrived at the reception site the day before the wedding for our rehearsal, John was already there, hard at work, setting tables and preparing everything for the next day. I had worked very hard on my beach theme and the way that you folded the napkins made them look like shells, which delighted me!

They say that brides and grooms are often so busy at their own weddings that they don't make time to eat. I vowed not to do that, because I really wanted to taste all of the delicious food. I kept that vow. The appetizers were amazing. I have been dreaming about those cocktail meatballs! Many of my friends have raved about the shrimp and scallops as well. The actual presentation of food on the buffet was excellent too. I can't possibly say which food I enjoyed the best. My brother raved about the tenderloin, and it was certainly delicious. The chicken picata and turkey were wonderful as well. The veggies were so fresh, and those roasted potatoes were the best I have ever tasted. I am an Italian girl, and I have had a lot of pasta in my day. That ziti with ricotta was top-notch!

The wait staff was very helpful, taking care of everything, while barely making it known that you were there. We only regret that we didn't get the chance to say goodbye to you before you left. Betsy, John, and Janalynne, Steve and I can not thank you enough. I am sincere in saying that, if we had a million dollar budget for our wedding, we would have hired you all over again. Not only can you use me as a reference, I have many guests who would happily provide a wonderful reference as well. Since we don't plan on getting married again, we just may have to invent another reason to have a big, catered party so we can have some more of that delicious food!

Sincerely,

**Kim**

Kim I. Skonieczny  
Meriden, CT