

*Intel*

Remember when ....

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## Modern store was air conditioned

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ware expanded its store and needed the space occupied by Amodeo, so he constructed a new building at 242 N. Front St. and hooked up with the Super Save chain serviced by National Grocers Company Ltd., but with independent operators. His new building had extra space and Amodeo rented this to the Royal Bank and Radio Shack. The Royal Bank now occupies the entire space.

The following year Amodeo

sold his West Bridge Street store and concentrated on the new, larger supermarket. It was considered a very modern store with air conditioning, four check-out counters, refrigerated display cases, including a four-tiered case for dairy products, and 60 feet of meat displays.

Amodeo says it was one of only a handful of large businesses on North Front Street when it opened. The Sun Valley Motel, Elliott Motors, Tops Motel (later the Black Hawk)

and Charlie Scott's livestock sales barn were the other major businesses on the strip.

Amodeo remembers buying his pork from the sales barn. He had some of it smoked at Spencer Frigid Locker and made his own sausages with the trimmings. "We sold an awful lot of sausage at 3 lbs. for a dollar," he says. The cost of a few other items in 1965 shows how much inflation has occurred since then. Steak and roasts were 69 cents a pound, ketchup 24 cents a bottle, peanut butter \$1 for three pounds, a pint of ice cream 20 cents and bread was selling for 22 cents a loaf.

Some of the employees included manager Art Conley, Pearl White, Al Bird, Tom Brownlee, butcher and meat department manager Al Shoniker, his daughter Ann Shoniker and all Amodeo's five children (Susan, Cathy, Jeannie, Paul and Mark) who worked after school or on weekends. Lorne Sparling, who later married Jeannie Amodeo, was also an employee.

Some things about the supermarket business have changed since Amodeo left. He says he never put green bananas on the shelves and never ran out of the staples. If he was low on some items, he borrowed them from another gro-



A visit from the Salad Queen with Amodeo on the right.

cery store until his shipment arrived. There was no animosity between the various grocery stores. In fact, there was almost an unofficial club of grocery store managers and produce company representatives, says Amodeo.

In 1978 Amodeo closed the business. There were several factors involved, including a lack of parking space and the rise of the large grocery store,

which made Amodeo's Super Save look small by comparison. As well, his children were pursuing other interests and the Royal Bank wanted to expand its premises.

Since then Amodeo had been involved with real estate sales and as a consultant with the Federal Business Development Bank, but is now basically retired.

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