

## The story of Mr. D's Food Center

After WWII ended Frank Dusl took a job as a traveling salesman for a refrigerated equipment company. He sold a refrigerated unit to a small grocery store in Thermopolis, Wyoming. The store was a block off Main Street, less than 2000 square feet and after his sale had ONE case that could keep things cool. Frank said that he met his match the day he made that sale because a short time later he bought the case back with the store included.

Frank loved the grocery business. He worked hard and eventually expanded the business to include stores in Thermopolis, Cody, Green River, Rawlins, Rock Springs, Riverton and Lander. At one time he owned the largest independently owned grocery chain in Wyoming.

Lander was the first store to be named "Mr. D's".

Joe and Bonnie (Frank's daughter) Motherway bought the Lander Mr. D'S from Senator Dusl in 1984 just as the local U.S. Steel Mine was closing. The Motherway's operated the store for 13 years, and when it finally got to the point where there was no more room to remodel or expand they built the NEW Mr. D's in 1998.

Most of the construction of the new Mr. D's was done by local companies. The family's philosophy has always been: "If you support your community, it will support you." The results were wonderful.

Mr. D's employs from 80-130 people, and we are a family. We realize people have more choices than ever before. New product trends, advertising claims and more and more places competing for food dollars are just some of the challenges that face us. People must buy groceries, but they don't have to buy them at Mr. D's. The grocery business is complex.

**'SERVING FREMONT COUNTY WITH INTEGRITY'**

This is more than a logo. It touches every aspect of our business and the way we feel about each other and how we treat our guests.

We believe the people at Mr. D's, both those who work here and those who shop here should be treated fairly. This doesn't mean that everyone is treated exactly the same. If that were the case we would all work the same shift, do exactly the

same task and wear the same size shirt. Instead we try to treat everyone as a unique individual.

Every guest has different shopping lists. The current trend in the grocery business is to downsize the number of available products to decrease inventory and in turn increase product movement. We are going in the opposite direction. We encourage people to request the products that they want and then we try our hardest to get them even if they aren't huge sellers. The result has been that people come from all over the state to get items that only we carry.

We also believe that everyone who shops at Mr. D's should receive the same price discount. We do not have preferred shoppers. All our shoppers are special.

We recognize that more than ever people need their dollars to count. They want quality products for good prices. People also do not want to wait in line. Their time is valuable. Once they are done shopping they want to leave. We have always been committed to provide excellent, fast check out service.

Mr. D's is a successful business, but only because of our guests and co-workers. We believe it is the fact that every day when we open our doors we depend on God's mercy and grace to get us through the day. The business has prospered for all these years IN SPITE OF US.