

Ruth's Moments : Entry # 72

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Tell us about your memorable moment.

This past Monday I found a gift card I bought a year ago when my best friend of 28 years and I enjoyed our Thanksgiving dinner at Ruth Chris on the Riverwalk. My children and grandchildren went out of town for Thanksgiving this year and my best friend has moved on. I found myself totally alone for the first Thanksgiving of my life and very sad. I was trying to find a way to cheer myself up...at age 71 as a disabled person in a wheelchair. I decided to dine alone at the Jones Maltsberger location. As soon as I rode through the door on my scooter I remembered the first time my husband and I enjoyed our first Ruth Chris steak in Lafayette, La, while en route with our two small children ages one and three. We were on our way from Laredo to enjoy Thanksgiving with family in Central Alabama. Although I am not certain, I believe it was 1971. We saw a road sign in Lafayette advertising your steak house. We had never heard of Ruth Chris, but were tired and famished and decided to stop. We carried both of our little ones inside and rested their sleeping bodies on the booth next to us. Then we were astonished as we enjoyed the best steak we had ever eaten. If I close my eyes, I can see the filet mignon which was extra thick and so tender that it melted in my mouth. I was raised in upstate New York, with my Dad as a hotel manager and had the rare culinary history of eating at five star restaurants almost every weekend. I admit, I wasn't expecting the quality and excellence of our first Ruth Chris steak. Every detail in the meal was impeccable. That day started a lifelong tradition of celebrating our most precious moments at your restaurants. You can imagine our joy to hear of the opening of your restaurants in San Antonio. I also remembered the meals shared with friends and family who are no longer with us. I shed a few tears during my dinner last Monday as I watched the young couples and families dining as we had done so many times and I remembered many joyful moments with laughter and tears. (I am actually weeping at the moment.) Those memories flooded back into my consciousness. What a remarkable moment it was for me as I am facing the last years of my life.

It is no small matter for me to pay homage to the past forty-seven years of my life.

My creative imagination was ignited by thinking of the possibility of winning your contest. How lovely and meaningful it would be to win dinner with twenty five friends and family so that we could all reminisce and share our memories at your steak house. Enjoying steak at Ruth Chris' Steak House is a family legacy. What a blessing that would be...having a transitional moment...passing on to the younger members of the family, the tradition that we have enjoyed because of Ruth Chris' dedication to excellence. Thanks Ruth and your supporters! We have enjoyed your contribution to our family, our nation, our culture and now, as you have expanded, to the world. If you could count the precious memories, engagements, parties, family outings, etc. that have been celebrated at your restaurants and peer into the hearts of all of your customers, you would see the precious legacy that you have and are continuing to contribute. Your legacy is great.

Blessings and best wishes for your continued success as you celebrate twenty-five years in San Antonio!