



Once Upon A Time's Gayle Marzolf and daughter Amy Bramble

Mother-Daughter

Relationships

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For many, there's no other day like Mother's Day to take the time to express the gratitude they feel for their mother. Whether it's handed over quietly in the wispy prose of a greeting card or actually spoken and followed by a heart-felt hug, there never seems to be enough ways to express the thankfulness to Mom for the positive impression she has had on the life of her child.

In many cases, our mothers are the foundations of

our families, the solid rock that holds everything together. For some, the success of raising a family has transformed itself into running a business. The well-grounded relationships already established in the family morph into successful business relationships. Several KC metro businesses owe their success to the strong bonds that come from a deep rooted mother-daughter relationship running the company.

The phrase "Once Upon a Time" begins nearly every story with a happy ending that's been told throughout time. Mother-daughter duo Gayle Marzolf and Amy Bramble have been busy writing their own fairy tale as they build a successful business in rustic downtown Louisburg, Kansas, called Once Upon a Time Interiors, an award-winning antique furniture and home accents store. Once you stroll into their 8,000-square-foot showroom, you will find an environment that is more than any fairy tale you've read.

Twenty years ago, Once Upon A Time Interiors was founded by this mother-daughter team. They designed it to bring an inner peace to their guests, inspired by the attractiveness of the products as well as finding their own creative side while viewing the beautiful layout and ambience of this store. It's that welcoming environment at Once Upon a Time Interiors, created by this duo, which meets the needs of their clients so well.

"We can stay positive about our business because of our customers who have kept returning for 20 years," noted Gayle. "There is no better compliment than that!"

"We absolutely love what we do, and the reward is seeing people happy," replied Amy. "We greet each and every customer with a hello,

most of them with their first name, check on them throughout the store and ask if they need anything or have any questions. We also keep our merchandise at reasonable, affordable prices."

Satisfying customers is an important key to achievement for Amy and Gayle, but they also benefit from a keen sense of humor to keep things enjoyable. "It's a running joke here that I will kid around and say, 'I'm quitting,' and then Amy says, 'No, I am quitting,'" laughed Gayle. "But we know darn well neither of us can run this business without the other. She pushes me and I push her to be all we can be. We don't look at this as work because it's so enjoyable. I take pride in that."

But for this dynamic mother-daughter relationship, the secret to success comes down to a mutual respect for each other. "I don't want to let my mother down, and she doesn't want to let me down," remarked Amy. "When we started 20 years ago, there was not a doubt in my mind that we wouldn't be a success. We believed in it and gave it 100 percent of our hearts. The other key element of our longevity is the environment that we create for our associates as they become part of the Once Upon a Time story. The next chapter will hopefully include my children, the third generation."