

As owner celebrates 95th, Marnicks enters 55th year

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Nick Quattrone Sr. is flanked by his son, Nick Jr., and grandson, Nick III, inside Marnicks, the restaurant he started 55 years ago. (John Kovach photo)

Nick Quattrone Sr. celebrated his 95th birthday Sunday, Dec. 18, as the establishment he founded prepares for its 55th year.

Quattrone Sr., who turned 95 Dec. 17, and his late wife, Marge, started what has been Marnicks for three generations in 1957 as Nick's Hideaway, a teen hangout. When word about the meals Marge made spread, a restaurant and Stratford fixture was born.

Nick Jr., 60, has worked at Marnicks his whole life and attending the Culinary Institute of America.

“I grew up in it,” he said of the restaurant.

Although he said there have been a lot of changes, “It’s still a family atmosphere,” he said.

That holds true for the family behind Marnicks as well.

“He’s still going to be the boss,” Nick Jr. said of his father. “He doesn’t run day-to-day operations, but he’s always the boss.”

Nick Sr. said he was happy that his son, and now grandson, followed him into his business.

“They do a good job,” the patriarch said.

Located at 10 Washington Parkway, near Shoreline Drive and the sea wall, Marnicks boasts a view of the coast and the Long Island Sound of which the Quattrones are proud.

Nick III, 34, the latest in the line to work Marnicks, said one of the biggest changes is a deck added five years ago to take advantage of the shorefront location.

“We had the view,” he said. “We never used it.”

The deck is open seasonally. Marnicks serves breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

