

For some women, workdays are a family affair



Luanne Salz, who opened the Table Setting shop in Birmingham with her husband Jeff, says the couple try not to carry business into their personal life.

By MARY CONNELLY-SZCZESNY

In the 1950s, television situation comedies showed Donna Reed's husband dashing out the door to work after a quick kiss good-bye.

Today, many couples are rushing out the door and going off to work together.

Husbands and wives work side-by-side in numerous business offices, law firms, retail stores, restaurants, art galleries and architectural firms throughout the area.

Frequently, couples drive to and from work together and share lunch hours.

Some bring shop talk home with them at night. Others try to leave business at the office.

Most say it requires give-and-take and isn't ideal for all couples. But when it works, the advantages may be many, they say.

"I THINK it makes for a much closer relationship," said Ruth Fulkerson of Birmingham who handles the business end of her husband's Troy law firm of Fulkerson, Hudson, Moore, Pierce, Tennent.

"You understand your husband's work better. What he really does, the pressures he's under, the pleasures of winning a case and the despair when one is lost.

"I came into the business because he wanted my help and I like working with him."

Mrs. Fulkerson said that working with her husband over a 20-year span has given her flexibility in scheduling her hours. That allowed her to be home with her children when she wanted and needed to be, she said.

LUANNE SALZ, who opened the

Table Setting shop in Birmingham with her husband, Jeff, in March 1976, said working together every day "has its ups and downs."

"We try not to carry business into our personal life," she said. "If we have a disagreement here in the store, we don't bring it home."

"The one disadvantage is that sometimes it's almost 24 hours that we're together. And sometimes that can be too much."

The couple share the work, she said, and do not try to outdo each other.

"I do stockwork. Jeff does stockwork. I do paperwork. He does paperwork. We do most of the buying together. I may not like something he does but there has to be that give and take."

"There's no competitiveness. We're not trying to outdo each other. We're trying to build a successful business."

HUSBAND AND WIFE teams in the art field are more common than some other businesses, said Florence Morris, who has worked with her husband to build the Donald Morris Gallery in Birmingham.

"I've been doing it for 20 years and it's been a very good partnership," she said.

"There are a great many advantages. One of them is the fact that we share. Our work is very much our life. We make decisions together. We share mutual interests."

"We're both very involved in art. It's a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week profession. If you aren't involved and are a mate of someone in the profession, your life could be lonely because you don't leave it when you leave the office."

"I HAVE never found any disadvantages," said Elaine Machus, vice-president of Harris O. Machus Enterprises, Inc., headquartered in Birmingham.

"We've always worked in our own particular area in our business. We seem to respect one another's ability."

"I'm not going to say we've never had differences of opinions, but we've had no real difficulties. I presume a lot of it is because both of us are intensely interested in our business."

Harris and Elaine Machus have parlayed a Birmingham bakery into a substantial restaurant and pastry business since World War II. The company now runs restaurants in several areas, including Birmingham, Bloomfield Township, Rochester, Dearborn and Lansing.

BARBARA JICKLING, a Birmingham woman who has worked with her husband since he began an architectural firm in 1960, has found it is men who react to finding a married couple in the same office.

"The reaction from men is 'I couldn't have my wife in the office all day.' I think it's a little bit of a male chauvinist attitude that lingers and I also think some men want to get away from the office and not bring it home," she said.

Ruth Fulkerson noted that women have been working alongside their husbands for decades.

"It's not so new," she said. "You can go back to pioneer times when women worked the plough in the field with their husbands. It's really the same experience. You're trying to building something together. You're trying to accomplish something together."



NEW MAKE-UP TECHNIQUE
QUEUE

People tend to think of beauty as an elusive quality. Nothing could be further from the truth. Every one has an individual beauty, unique and abiding. A rose reveals its beauty petal by petal, nurtured by the elegance of time. Creating designs that enhance your natural beauty deserves no less time, no less elegance. Relax, enjoy the patient savoir-faire that is Queue. Write or call for your complimentary brochure.

124 W. Maple Birmingham, Michigan 45011 642-1848

FINE FURNITURE SINCE 1917

INTERIOR DECORATING IDEAS FOR THE CAREER WOMAN

We can make interior decorating easy for you—the busy woman. Our experienced designers know color and harmony and how to make a pleasing setting. They also can help you select furnishings that will correlate with those you have already have. So whether it be a home or apartment, a living room or a den, we can help you—and the service costs no more. Come in with or without your room layout and one of our designers will be glad to assist you.



And to help you further, come in for your copy of the Pennsylvania House Collector's book. 288 pages in full color with hundreds of decorating ideas! FREE—no obligation.

Stuart Glen

2600 N. W. 10th Ave. Miami, FL 33136
South of Sunset Road, Suite 202, Miami, FL 33136



FASHION FRINGE BENEFITS

Easy... sophisticated... superlatively expressed by KASPER FOR JOAN LESLIE. A longer, slimmer plaid with a touch of fringe on yoke and hem. Blended in earthy tones of rust. Sizes 4 to 14 \$158.00

B Siegel

• WOODWARD • 7 MILE • EASTLAND • BIRMINGHAM • DEARBORN • NORTHLAND • LAKESIDE