



Coon Rapids Business Spotlight

Coon Rapids Service Stays in the Family

In 1980, Chuck Szaflarski and Steve Warndahl combined their knowledge and expertise in auto repair and opened Coon Rapids Service after renovating a boarded up gas station located at 2600 Coon Rapids Boulevard NW.

Chuck's son, Steven (Spike) grew up in the garage. "It was my daycare and vacation spot," Steven says.

Warndahl retired and Chuck and Steven became business partners in 2009, when Steven purchased a portion of the company. Chuck later retired in 2014 and Steven took over as owner expanding upon what his father had established over the last 34 years, focusing on customer service and reliable repairs.

"We're small enough where when you walk in we know your name. We're really about giving fantastic service that some of the bigger stores can't necessarily compete with. We are there truly to service people's vehicles and meet their needs," Szaflarski says.

Moving forward, Szaflarski hopes to continue to build the business by focusing on the company's mission; ensuring that clients' vehicles are safe and dependable.

Outside the company, Szaflarski wants to give back to the community he grew up in.

"I would love to see a non-profit that I'm able to set up with the profits from our business. Something bigger than ourselves, a way to provide services to those who need vehicle repairs."

Quick Facts:

- Family Name: Szaflarski
- Employees: 2
- Years in Business: 36

Fun Facts:

- Steven was nicknamed "Spike" when an elderly woman saw his mohawk as a teenager and referred to him as "Spike."
- Chuck still works as a custodian at Coon Rapids Service when he isn't farming at home.



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