

== THE == TOP SHOP INC.



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Top Shop Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Gift to its First Customer

London, On - You'd think that after 25 years in business, David Dean, president of The Top Shop Inc., might not remember who his first customer was back in 1985. However, not only does David remember his first customer but he remembers doing the new countertop job himself. And, after installing thousands of countertops since, David figures it's time to go back and salute his first customer with the gift of a new kitchen countertop...only this time the Petronis family is getting custom-made, highest quality granite, at no cost in their east London home.

"It certainly came as quite a surprise!" exclaimed Ron Petronis, a semi-retired Londoner who now works part-time at Rona in the electrical department. "My wife, Linda, took the call and we both wondered, 'what's the catch?' We kept waiting for the other shoe to drop but there is no catch. The call just came 25 years later, out of the blue, and now we have a beautiful new kitchen countertop!"

Even though this was a surprise, it's not the first time the Petronis' have received a gift from The Top Shop. David Dean sent the couple a bottle of champagne on the first anniversary of the company to thank them for being his first customer. It wasn't until late last year when he started to think about making special plans for The Top Shop's 25th Anniversary, that he recalled his first customers and decided to do up "something special."

"It always excited me so much to get that first sale. I remember going over and measuring it and installing it. When we do business, no matter who it is, I always try to picture my mom and dad and make sure that everything that we send out this door has the personal touch to it, as I say, our gold seal. So, meeting the Petronis' - nice, mild mannered people, a quiet family, I knew what it felt like to give them what they deserved - what people like them, and my parents, deserved from a business. When my wife said, let's have the Petronis' shine during our 25th anniversary, well, I really liked the idea," explains David.

The couple came to The Top Shop's Quarry at 502 First Street, London (www.the-topshop.com) and picked out a beautiful slab of "exotic" granite. The Top Shop also gave them a new sink and faucet, which then inspired them to get new kitchen cupboards too. The renovation took place over the late winter and is now available to be seen by the media. While this is not the same home they owned 25 years ago when they installed the first ever Top Shop countertop, the Petronis' are thrilled with the update. "At the time when we bought the original countertop it was really nice - with gold flecks - and it was still there when we sold the house. But when we went into the Quarry and saw this one piece of granite, we really honed in on this whole new look!" says Ron Petronis.

The total value of the new countertop, sink and faucets is about \$5,000. As well the Petronis' are invited to a special 25th anniversary gala on April 9th at the Lamplighter Inn. "It's just our way to say thank you," says David Dean.

For media interviews with David Dean or the Petronis family, and to view the Quarry and the newly renovated Petronis kitchen and for photography please contact:

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