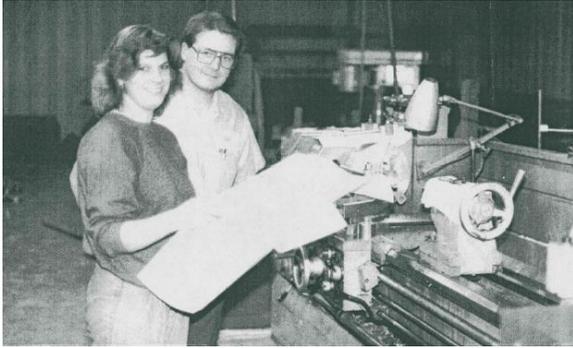


MTE – The Legacy Continues

We have always associated MTE and its great success with Kurt and Sarah George. Kurt worked at MTE for two years while attending Hawkeye Tech and Sarah worked at MTE part-time with the punch press in 1988. Kurt and Sarah were a couple of young 'kids' with a lot of motivation when they purchased MTE back in 1989, being just 23 and 22 years old, respectively.



“One morning the previous owners laughingly asked if we wanted to buy the business,” Sarah recalls. She repeated the conversation to Kurt at lunchtime that day and he jumped at the thought. “I think I had had a bad morning at my other job.” Kurt says. It took the couple six months to work out the details and they haven’t looked back since. They then went from being the only two employees with 3 manual machines in a 3,800 square foot building to now employing 50 people with more than 35 CNC machines in a 40,000 square foot State-of-the-Art Facility. We need to take a moment to reflect and recognize their undeniable hand work and strategic business decisions that paved the way for where MTE stands today.

After hiring their core group of employees, they set out to be the best in the industry with high standards for quality and customer service. To this day that is still their number one priority. “Right place at the right time,” says Sarah of their continued success. Everything seemed to take the snowball effect once MTE focused on the quality of their products and the amount of customer service that it took to keep their customers happy. “Our biggest sales tool is our quality,” Sarah commented about being ISO 9001:2008 Certified. “That has helped grow our name in the industry, no doubt about it. We have to recertify every year, which means we get inspected every year. It’s nothing to take lightly,” she explains. MTE has been ISO Certified since March of 2007. “The quality of our work is what I’m most proud of. If it leaves here, it’s right. It is extremely rare that we ever have a part come back to us for any

reason. Quality is what had grown our business,” Kurt adds.

The main facility has been added onto three times since their original purchase, in 1998, 2001 and 2011. These additions were prompted by additional work that was awarded to MTE through existing and new customers in various markets.

“We have good people, good employees. I would put MTE employees up against any place in the Midwest,” explains Kurt. MTE has created a *MTE Team* behind their doors where all employees’ feels welcome, important and very involved in the success of the business.



You will find many of their employees wearing MTE Apparel items and reminiscing of the Employee Appreciation Events that take place each summer. “I have never seen a company grow so much over so few of years. Twenty-five years sounds like a lot, but seeing the progress that has been made is astounding,” says Kari Unga, daughter of Kurt and Sarah. “Being able to balance the highs and lows of entrepreneurship as well as raising four kids while maintaining a healthy home life and marriage is a challenge not many are presented with, let alone enter into willingly,” she adds. “These two have gone above and beyond in every way possible and I am one of many to say how proud I am of them!”

Please join us in congratulating them on this major accomplishment! 25 years down, many more to go!

