

On a dark spring day in 2012, I awoke to the fact that 15 years ago this day I started my business. A task I wasn't sure I was up for but it turned out I was indeed. I did my usual routine of preparing for a normal day at the salon but when I arrived it was anything but that.

My two full-time employees, well at the time they were friends really, greeted me at the door with smiles.

Sassy, with her short and yes sassy platinum blonde spiked hair and her usual camouflage uniform charged up to me as I sashayed through the front door and cheered, "Congratulations on 15 years!"

"Thank you!" I beamed.

My other very dear friend, Hermy, with his typical ridiculously styled shoes (more on that later) and dressed to the nines with his crisply pressed clothes, bellowed, "Bet you never thought you'd make it to this point did you?" We all erupted in laughter, he always did love to tease me.

As the normal day to day salon activities went on, clients came and went. They loved watching the camaraderie between us all. Then suddenly a dozen roses appear through the front door. They seemed to be floating toward me but then I realized there was a sweet little delivery boy behind them. He set them on the green granite front desk that was next to my vintage vanity where combs and hair were flying regularly. They were lovingly sent from my husband who has always been a wonderful support to me.

Later in the day when the third stylist showed up, they all three came to me with a cake of congratulations and a gift. A beautiful tear drop shaped cobalt blue and green award, "Congratulations on 15 years of Business! 1997-2012." I was so touched I believe I burst into tears.

I still have that award and everytime I look at it, I remember the feeling I had that day. I was then and still am very proud of what I achieved and very grateful to those three friend /employees and my husband for their kindness on that momentous occasion.