



MEMBER PROFILE

Sharon Quercioli *Sprouts Inc.*



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In February 2004, Sharon Quercioli literally planted a seed to start her own company. Since then, she has watched it grow into a “blooming” business.

Quercioli owns Sprouts Inc., which designs and distributes recycled seed-filled paper that produces real flowering plants, vegetables or herbs when soaked in water and planted in soil.

“We make ideas bloom with custom-printed seed-paper products,” she said. “We help schools and charities raise funds for their programs by utilizing our holiday and variety boxed cards that, when planted, grow into beautiful flowers. People and companies never forget who you are when they look at the flowers that grow from our seed products.”

Before founding Sprouts Inc., Quercioli was president and CEO of Imagine Achieving Excellence, which collected and recycled empty ink-jet and laser cartridges. Her former company also partnered in fundraising efforts with schools and nonprofit organizations.

Before embarking on her entrepreneurial pursuits, she spent more than 10 years in the corporate world as a sales and marketing professional.

Quercioli’s latest creation is a coloring book that encourages young people to adopt good habits involving ink- and toner-cartridge reuse. The publication took root during Quercioli’s encounters with fundraisers for various charitable organizations.

Birthday: July 12.

Family: My best friend and love of my life, my amazing mother, two brothers and sisters-in-law, many nieces and nephews, and a shi tzu who thinks she is human.

Education: Kent State University and management courses at Harvard.

Community involvement: Chamber’s Small Business Council, Healing Touch Buddies, Wheels for Kids, American Lung Association.

Known for: Attitude is everything (I have an engraved stone on my desk).

Dream Job: Professional dancer (that doesn’t mean strip-tease).

Favorite book: *Angelspeak* by Barbara Mark and Trudy Griswold.

Favorite TV show: *Dancing With the Stars* because it is my dream to be a dancer.

Favorite late-night snack: Popcorn.

Favorite quote: “Always listen to your intuition (your gut feeling).”

What would surprise people about you? I am a healing touch and reiki practitioner.

Person you would most like to meet, living or dead: Elvis Presley.

Whom do you admire most? My mother.

Hobbies: Golf, dancing, in-line skating, boating, working with children’s charities.

What did you want to be when you were little? A princess.

Greatest achievement: Mentoring children.

What event in history do you wish you had witnessed? First trip to the moon.

Is there another profession you’d like to try? A professional traveler with an unlimited bank account.

If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be? Oprah Winfrey. We can all learn from her experiences and generosity.

For what would you like to be remembered? Making a difference in peoples’ lives.

What’s the one thing you’d like to do? Take a trip around the world.

Favorite music: Oldies.

What’s the best advice you’ve ever received? My dad always said, “Live life to the fullest and never, ever give up.”

What would you do if you won the lottery? Travel and help my family.

What do you like to do on rainy days? Read a book.

What book do you like to recommend? *Natural Cures* by Kevin Trudeau.