**RETIREMENT SPEECH**

**FOR**

**MATT BROWAR**

Hello everyone... tonight marks the celebration of, in many ways, the end of an era.... the “Titan of Terrazzo...”. . The “King of Carpet....’ the “Sage of Sisal....” ... The “Wizard of Rugs” (**or “The Wizard of OURS?”**) has folded his tent and is taking his leave.... he’s a man loved and respected by all... he’s the consummate professional and an even better friend.... (**If you want to make a joke you can say**).... Oh. Wait. That’s right... we’re here for **Mitch Adler**... we’ll miss him **too.**.. (**and wait for the laugh**). There’s so much I can say at this moment... and probably will (**give a little wink if you feel it works**), but most of all, I have to say.... **DON’T SPILL ANYTHING**!!! We’re on our own now!!! (**Wait for the laugh**).

Mitch and I have come a long way over the years and I have to say that one of the highlights of my professional life has been having the opportunity to meet fine people who have been there as colleagues, and more importantly, good, trusted friends. Mitch is a beacon for me when it comes to honoring lasting friendships. He and I started our companies at the same time in “sympathetic” business sectors... Mitch in flooring and me??? ...the wonderful... magical... world of real estate. I began my company with single family homes and (**Do you want to say**) ... “**moved on up to the big time**...” to multiple dwellings and apartments.... Of course that means something here... lots and lots of floors involved and so I’ve been a client of Mitch’s from day one... we **COULD** say that without my business and the loyalties of my associates, his business wouldn’t be where it is today... **KIDDING**!! (**Wait for the laugh**). What **IS** true is that it has been a pleasure to support Bonded while we, yes, **bonded**. As most of us know, Mitch had great success in selling the building.... probably because of all the work I provided to him over the years... for all that flooring!!! While I’m not quite sure of the multipliers used in determining asset value, we **COULD** say some of the proceeds **MIGHT** belong right here (**indicate your pocket and wait for the laugh**).

To say that Mitch is one of the “good guys” would be an understatement. If we are here in this room, we already know that... but Mitch has proven time and again that he has what it takes to be successful... and that’s all innate... drive, integrity, respect, appreciation, and the ability to see and act on the **bigger picture**. Throughout the years, as my business grew, so did Bonded. And Mitch always paid attention to the finest details and watched everything... even for others. I will never forget the time, back when my wife, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was my bookkeeper. Mitch had done a cleaning job for our company and, ever efficient, he would send an invoice as soon as the job was completed.... and a back up invoice at the end of the month. My wife usually paid **ALL** invoices in a timely manner... including the duplicates... and Mitch would usually catch the error and return the overpayment. Who does that??? Mitch does!! I also have to acknowledge Sheri... we **KNOW** that behind every great man is a powerhouse of a wonderful woman, and Sheri is that dynamo. (**Name your wife**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I consider Mitch and Sheri among our closest friends. The four of us share a very special friendship. We travel together... we play golf together..... now, if only he paid as close attention to his golf scores as he did to those invoices... (**Wait for the laugh**).

As Mitch and Sheri move on to their next great adventures in life, I want to thank both of them for all that they have shared with all of us. I’d like to invite you to raise a glass ... **CLEAR** liquids **ONLY**, folks!,, (**Wait for the laugh**) .... To Mitch and Sheri... here’s to a future filled with health, happiness, great adventures and even better friends... The **BIG PICTURE** is now yours to own and enjoy!! Congratulations! Thank you all!!