



Marty and Mandy Kollrepp celebrate the 30-year anniversary of their restaurant Oskars

# Shark's early bite at Oskars

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**A**WARD-winning chef Marty Kollrepp has been satisfying the world's biggest celebrities for three decades.

But his stories of a sandy-haired man lurking in the bar soon after his restaurant's opening are a juicy appetiser.

Kollrepp, who with wife Mandy is celebrating the 30-year anniversary of their restaurant Oskars, remembers a young, then unknown Greg Norman making a temporary 'bunker' in the couple's Surfers Paradise bar.

"He was just a little golfer in Brisbane, I think, on the cusp of going overseas – but he used to hang around in the bar," he said.

Kollrepp also recalled regular visits by comedian

Barry Humphries and his family when the restaurant moved to Coolangatta in the early 1980s.

During that time, Oskars, one of the Gold Coast's longest-running restaurants, also hosted the premiere of Coast film *The Coolangatta Gold*, feeding 600 VIPs.

"We also had 500 (regular) guests here before that. I slept well that night . . . but not beforehand."

Kollrepp said just about every aspect of dining had changed since the late 1970s.

"It used to be the steak Diane cooked at the table with the trolley and the waiter wearing the black suit and tie.

"Then we had the Asian influence and the Pacific

Rim. It is forever evolving.

"But the steak Diane, pepper steak and the big seafood platters were big. Of course the seafood platters are too expensive now, they are a thing of the past.

"Back then you could buy a mud crab, a big mud crab, for \$3.50. Now you're paying \$35 a kilo for them."

A modest Kollrepp, who moved Oskars to its present-day site at Burleigh Point in 1997, offered a theory to his restaurant's success and survival.

"If you buy good stuff you can't really stuff it up. It's like if you buy a good car, you'll drive well to Brisbane."

And it's been one hell of a ride.

— Wayne Watson

The best celebrity po

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Photos: Relive Tastes of Gold Coast at [goldcoast.com.au](http://goldcoast.com.au)