

Kelly Connelly Named this Year's Susan (Lipsett) de Vries Spirit Award Recipient

Charles River Apparel is pleased to announce that Kelly Connelly is the first recipient of the Spirit Award. As Charles River Apparel approaches its 35th year, they wanted to present an award in memory of Susan (Lipsett) de Vries, the daughter of the company's founder, Walter Lipsett, and sister of the owner/President, Barry Lipsett. Sue began working as a sales manager in 1984, just after Charles River first opened its doors at the small Medford, MA office. Her warmth, endearing personality and boundless energy made her a natural talent. A few years later, Sue welcomed the challenge of running a showroom in New York City. She possessed a "can do" attitude and quickly made strangers her close friends. She truly cared about and loved the people in her life, and everyone felt special around her. Her bright smile and optimism will always be remembered. Sue was beautiful inside and out.

When determining the recipient for the first ever of Susan (Lipsett) de Vries Spirit Award, we used all the characteristics that best represented Sue to pick our honoree. "Picking the first recipient was an important initiative for us as we wanted to make sure whoever was chosen, truly exemplified everything that Sue represented," says Barry Lipsett. To be honest, it didn't take long for the management team to agree that Kelly Connelly was the perfect person to receive this award. "Kelly is hard working, dedicated and truly loved by all of her colleagues and customers. She goes above and beyond to service her customers and does so with a positive energy and great pleasure. We are so honored to have Kelly as this year's Susan (Lipsett) de Vries Spirit Award recipient and look forward to her continued growth in the organization."