

# Jewelry business closes its doors after 145 years!



**In the 1950s and '60s, when Erie was in its industrial glory, your company presidents shopped at Jarecki's... it was like the Tiffany's of Erie.**

– LES CRAIG, OWNER

Founded in 1862 by the late Herman T. Jarecki, JARECKI'S JEWELERS became a fixture in downtown Erie, Pennsylvania at

the height of the Civil War. The business weathered 28 U.S. presidents and more than 14 decades of change as well as six subsequent store owners. Erie's oldest jewelry store enjoyed its heritage of presenting fine jewelry, quality giftware and exceptional service to its many customers.

Les Craig, Jarecki's owner for the last nine years, wasn't there for the glory days, but he's heard all the stories. "The reputation is one of the reasons I purchased Jarecki's Jewelers," said Craig. "It had a quality-minded clientele in a town known for its thrift."

Craig, who closed his store for personal reasons, tried for more than a year to sell the business, fixtures, inventory and name, but was unable to reach a deal with the right buyer. That's when he decided to call Wilkerson and Associates

– the nation's leader in premier jewelry promotion. Wilkerson came in, evaluated his situation and started work on a comprehensive going-out-of-business sale.

It was a tremendous success. Customers rushed in pursuit of a piece of history at unbelievable prices.

In retrospect, Les Craig looks back to a rewarding experience with Wilkerson and Associates. "It was a hard thing to close Jarecki's Jewelers after 145 years," he noted, "but it was the right decision for me. I cannot thank Wilkerson and Associates enough for helping end a part of history and my life with such dignity. The Jarecki family would be proud."



CONTACT WILKERSON AND ASSOCIATES

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