

Frequently referred to as "The Goat" on the competitive BBQ circuit, Darren's love for cooking food started at a very young age, cooking family recipes with his mother and grandma. His first memory of BBQ was watching his dad burn chicken breasts on the grill while basting with Open Pit BBQ sauce and honey. Throughout high school and college Darren was always the one behind the grill at all tailgates and parties, where he met his bride of 32 years, Sherry. With lots of research on the internet and help from the BBQ Forum, Darren and Sherry attended their first American Royal BBQ in 2002; they have since won the American Royal three times. Darren and Sherry have showcased their love for food and the restaurant business with operations Smokey D's BBQ, The Ornery Chicken, and The Crafty Mac.

