

**StewartRichardson**  
DEPOSITION SERVICES

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Verano -

Please accept my apology for the late reply. I have been waiting to explore additional sections of your book before writing this note. After reading your history as a young boy, living in Italy during World War II, and your subsequent journey upon your arrival to the United States, I can think of only one word - Wow!

Your story is both captivating and inspiring. What you overcame and continue to overcome is a lesson all of us can learn from. Growing up is hard enough, let alone being separated from your parents during those vital years. Yet your resilience in spite of it all is an example of the human spirit at its best.

My fascination with great food was piqued after recently visiting Italy and France. As a result, I have recently become somewhat of a foodie wannabe. And as a result, I have begun to enjoy cooking like never before. Wine is pretty high on my list too! My search for new things is what led me to "Tuscany al Verano." And your kindness to supply me with a copy is more than appreciated.

Vern, I'm guessing I have known you since the mid to late Seventies, starting when I was a young court reporter at Powell & Oakes. Never would I have suspected your culinary talent exceeded your ability to sway jurors, which I learned first hand when I was in federal court. And the accordion? Who would have guessed? What a fantastic instrument!

The photography in your book is first class and mouth watering. And the recipes? Well, I'm looking forward to taking them for a test ride this summer.

In the meantime, I would love to take you to lunch and talk about your love of food. I'll follow this up soon with a phone call. I know you're busy. But if you have the time, I would appreciate spending some time with the Master Chef. And you're right - only in America!

Continued success!



Tom Richardson