

# Safeway Pullman Washington Eric Johnson Spring 2017



A floral crown requested for a new mother of her first child bought by her loving brother.



A Custom wrap with blue and orange as the focus as they were the client's favorite colors to be presented to her for her doctorate. Lush with lilies, hydrangea, gladiola, delphinium, and roses.

## Introduction

Safeway is a grocery store with locations mostly on the west coast. My work is in the floral department, where I am the "back-up"; stores that make around \$5,000 or less a week can only support two workers which are the managers and the one back-up. With limited options on the Palouse, Safeway in Pullman has become a destination for flowers and more (mainly through the hard work of my manager). We supply fresh cut flowers, standard and custom arrangements, balloons, and gift baskets. Safeway doesn't train in floral and only allots nearly 24 hours for training on department basics. Floral skill is respected but not necessary for the position.

## Duties

As the second and only person in the department there are many responsibilities to keep the department in tip-top shape, the following duties are often shared between myself and my supervisor based on schedules and immediacy. We begin with processing anywhere from 10 to 60 boxes of freight, flowers require removal from all protective layers, a fresh cut, and to be displayed. We also process many potted plants which is a similar process but also we will decorate them by adding wrapping, pots, and whatever will spruce up the plant for any occasion. It goes without saying I also do a fair bit of customer service and help many with customer floral work, check-out service, and help with botanical problems and or questions. We make just about any floral design when necessary from weddings, funerals, prom, pageants which lead us to make corsages, boutonnieres, and recently with graduation we even made our own leis after suppliers failed to provide us with enough for how many requests we had. Aside from that I am held to the policies and procedures of any Safeway employee.



Vert de fleur, a monochromatic green themed petite arrangement a customer needed several of to thank the film staff for a movie filmed here in Pullman early this year.

## Career Connections

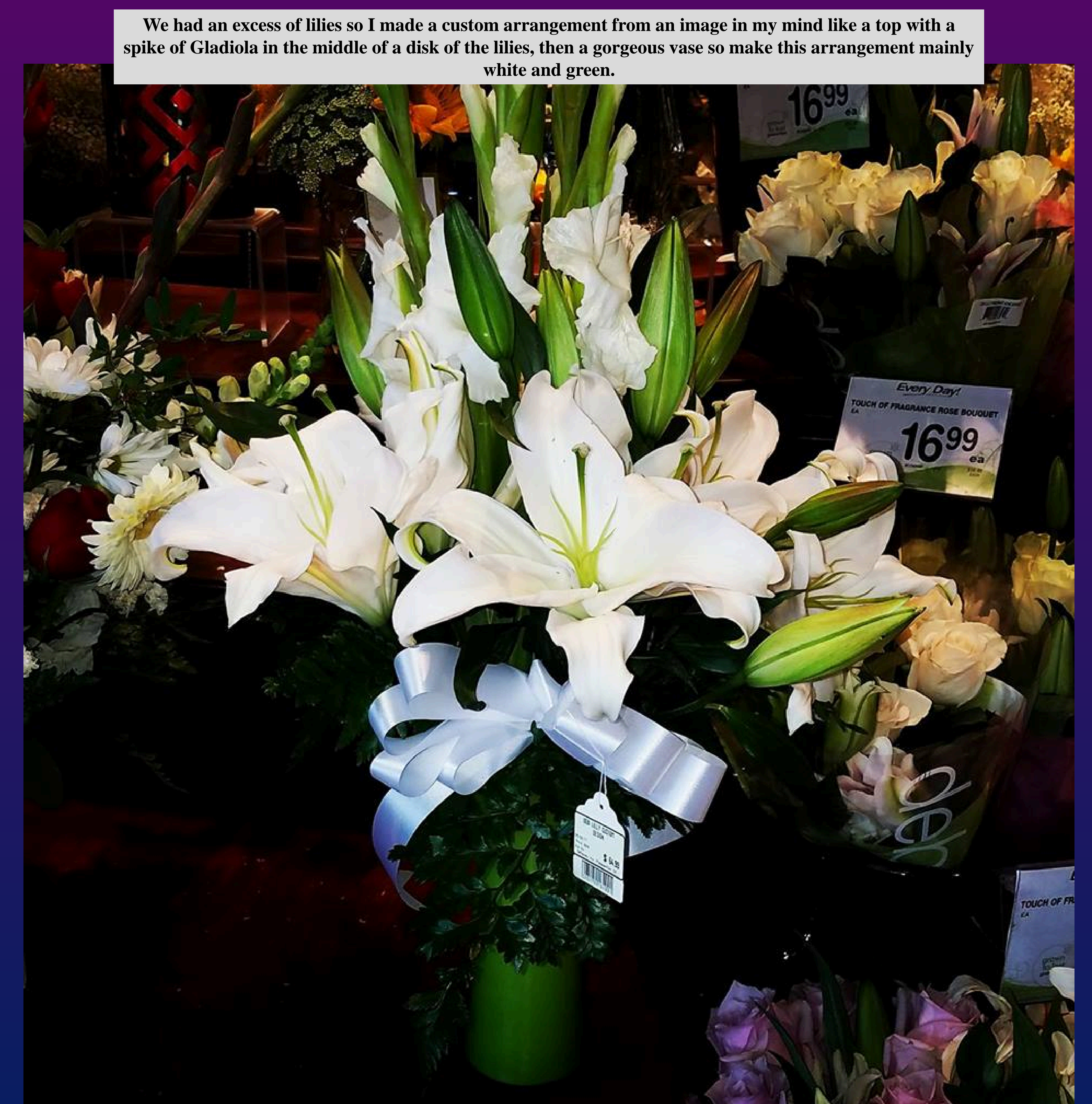
I am absorbing as much information as I can about the nature of the floral department so I can ride this train as long as possible. I already have the makings to run a small department, so I am going to keep growing as a clerk so that when the time comes I can ascend to a management position with success. One of my goals at this point is to travel and with a corporation like Safeway I can apply for floral manager positions throughout the US because of the many companies all under the same Safeway umbrella. Working with people has reminded me what I enjoyed so much about the service industry, and how my work can impact people's lives. I really enjoy my job and I can see myself here for years and taking on more and more responsibilities. While I finish my schooling this position works so well to keep me happy in this place away from my home, while keeping me in my industry and around what I am truly passionate about which are the plants.



Custom wrap of premium Ecuadorian roses plus additional greens and filler and made use of an elasticated bear that was with a vase that broke.



This is a custom arrangement for a 90th Birthday over \$100.00, one of my favorites and only took around 45 minutes.



We had an excess of lilies so I made a custom arrangement from an image in my mind like a top with a spike of Gladiola in the middle of a disk of the lilies, then a gorgeous vase so make this arrangement mainly white and green.