



## History of Chateau Lamothe

They say that anything worthwhile is worth the wait! I'm here to say it's true.

I started cooking and baking early, alongside my mother, Antoinette. By the time I was five, I knew my future was in food. And that future it would be! Like the

day I was told NOT to make anything with yeast, did it anyway and created my Sweetheart coffee cake. Everyone raved about it and I discovered the great feeling that comes with serving good food that makes people smile and brings them joy.

After graduating from high school in Lester Prairie, MN, I enrolled in the chef training and management program at Dakota County Vocational Technical Institute. I loved every minute of it, though I was surprised to find it was a man's world. I was one of only three women in my class. I began my career in the hotel business, working my way up as the only female chef in a large corporation with men who were eager to share their expertise with me. Wanting more growth and experience, I moved on to a small bake shop in Minneapolis, where I was a baker for 10½ years! During this time, I married David Hoel and had two children Chris and Alyson.

With both kids in school, David urged me to start the catering business I had dreamed of! I worked fulltime as the Corporate Chef for Starkey Lab and operated my Fun Foods catering business part time. Thirteen and a half year later, with both kids in college, David reminded me again that it was time to take the next step and focus totally on Fun Foods. I did and things went extremely well.

Then, at a catering convention in Washington DC in 2004, David and I heard a speaker say, "If you're comfortable doing what you're doing, you aren't doing enough." After the seminar, and again with the urging and encouragement of David, I decided it was time to stretch yet again – this time to capture the brass ring and see all my dreams come true.

The result is Chateau Lamothe, named in honor of my family whose surname, LaMott, and was originally spelled Lamothe. We recently discovered a vineyard in France named Chateau Lamothe and they were delighted to share their name with us and become our signature wine. Chateau means home and that is always how we want you to feel with us. So relax and enjoy yourself at our Chateau Lamothe and Be Joyful Always!

Doris LaMott Hoel