

# SING - COOK - EAT!

## *Andy LoRusso* THE SINGING CHEF®



**A**ndy LoRusso, known as “The Singing Chef,” is one of the lucky people that enjoy their job as it is also their hobby. He has combined his true passions: music and cooking and travels the country as the Singing Chef.

Andy was born in Newark, NJ and grew up in East Orange, NJ, where he attended the grade school at St. Joseph's. He went to High School at Vailsburg High and lived in the part of Newark called Vailsburg.

Andy's father Andrew Nick was born in the Ironbound section of New Jersey, his father Angelo was born in a little town in the Basilicata region of Italy called Potenza. Andy's Mother, Ida (Aida), was born in West Virginia and her mother and father, Grace and Antonio Colombrito, were born in Agira, Sicily, in the provenza of Enna. Both Andy's parents are deceased but are still alive in Andy's heart and sure to be in heaven above. Andy has one older brother, Ronald LoRusso, who was named after Ronald Regan and his middle name is Angelo, to keep up with the Italian heritage.

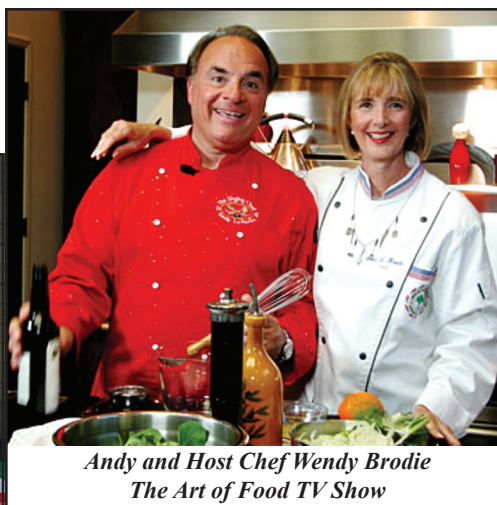
When we asked Andy to share some nice memories and experiences of growing up Italian American, and some family traditions, he mentioned that the funny and nice memories would always be around the holidays. “I would dress up as Santa Claus on Christmas Eve and hand out all the gifts. After I grew out of the Santa outfit, we got a new one and then a few of my uncles kept the tradition going.”

Some cute memories are when his Grandmother Grace would dry the pasta on the bed. “When we little bambino's were tired, Momma Ida would clear some of the drying pasta from the bed and lay us down next to all the noodles to sleep. We would wake up with some of the pasta stuck to us and the flour all over us.”

Andy has always had an intrinsic sense of music and food. His Father cooked a lot at home and so did his Mom, however, it was his Grandmother Grace's cooking along with his Aunt's, that truly inspired him.



*Andy with Mary Ann Esposito*



*Andy and Host Chef Wendy Brodie  
The Art of Food TV Show*

Around 1966-67, he had the good fortune to be introduced to a popular songwriter John Gluck who introduced him to the popular song writing team of Linzer and Randell. “They liked my Tom Jones, Engelburt Humperdink, BJ Thomas type of soulful singing delivery so they gave me the name of Palmer Jones and had a few songs that they wanted me to sing, one of which was called The Great Magic of Love that went on to be my first recording for Epic Records.”

When he moved to California in 1991, he studied with the world-renowned vocal coach to the stars, Giovanna d'Onofrio, who coached the great tenors and sopranos of the time. It was with d'Onofrio that Andy studied the arias and love songs of the great Italian composers and combined his and his family's best recipes with classic, beautiful love songs that you can find in his best selling book “Sing & Cook Italian” that comes with a CD.

His show starts with an upbeat song called “Tarantella.” Some of the popular songs you can hear while Andy performs are “That's Amore” or “Volare.” Andy says: “I like to snake through the audience, followed by the wait staff, and get the energy in the room sizzling.” He sings and prepares a delicious, usually 4 course meal, that includes for example: Bruschetta with Gorgonzola, Red Roasted Peppers and Kalamata Olives; a salad of Sweet Fennel and Oranges with Toasted Walnuts in a Honey Sherry Vinegar Dressing; a choice of Chicken Scaloppini accompanied by Fresh Baby Asparagus and Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes or Sicilian Rolled Beef, Braciola, with Fresh Tomato sauce over Creamy Mascarpone Polenta; and for dessert my special Ricotta Cheese Cake with Fresh Berries, Raspberry Coulis and Shaved Belgian Chocolate.

The Singing Chef always gets the whole room singing along with him as he has all the words to the songs projected on the large screens hanging over the stage and throughout the room.

Andy has performed in Chicago and the surrounding areas as **The Singing Chef** many times. The first time was at the **Taste of Chicago** a few years in a row in the late 90's, then he performed at the **Sorrento Cheese Festa Pasta Vino**, Italian festival. In 2004 he performed with Frankie Avalon. And when Andy is in Chicago he is a regular favorite guest on the WGN -TV network morning news show. They love him there and they all have a great time!

He is not scheduled to be in the Chicago area at this time, but that can change at any moment. Andy The Singing Chef schedule is on his website [www.singingchef.com](http://www.singingchef.com) to see where and when he will be performing. As of today, he is not scheduled to be in the Chicago area, but that can change. Andy's favorite Italian restaurant in the Chicago area is any one that he is eating in at the time. His favorite

food would be Lobster Fra Diavolo with homemade pasta. One thing is for sure he LOVES CHICAGO! Which now brings us to his act.

As Andy travels a lot, relaxing is an important part of his day. Besides doing yoga and meditation each day, Andy says, he always tries to get a massage and take a nice warm jacuzzi. Aside from his culinary and music hobby he rides his Italian bicycle (Colnago) the best road bicycle in the world. He rides every chance he gets, and besides eating this is one of his favorite things to do.

As far as Andy's favorite places in Italy, he loves visiting his cousins of his father's side in the area of Origgio, outside of Milano. "We would go to Venice and then a train ride to Bologna from Tuscany. Soon I will visit the area where my Mothers side was born in Sicily with my daughter and experience the beauty of southern Italy."

You may recognize Andy from his appearances on the "Donny & Marie Osmond Show" on Fox TV, where he was the guest chef entertainer from 1997-98.

**"When you have a vision and a goal, never let anyone or anything stand in your way. Believe in yourself and do your homework and never stop learning."** Andy LoRusso



*Andy at Festa Italiana Milwaukee, WI 2006*



*Andy & VIP Guests having fun*

Andy has been associated with the Santa Barbara Opera Company for a number of years and makes himself available for a number of fundraisers throughout the year as The Singing Chef. He is a featured performer at state and country fairs and Italian festivals and has also been teaching cooking classes all over North America. He has been a member of the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP) for over eight years.

In Andy's life, like in everybody else's, there was a couple of breakthrough moments but one of the biggest ones was definitely when he after the long 30 years finally found his daughter Betty that he had never seen before. "With pride I say she is a chip off the old block: She teaches a unique program called "Yoga Hoop Dance", and I have been doing yoga for more than 30 years. She is a graduate of the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, and, like me, is a chef. Who would've ever guessed!"

If Andy was choosing a role model it would be people who he appreciates a lot - like Oprah Winfrey, who has created a dynasty based on not only business acumen but lots of heart, and Bill Gates, who through his enormous wealth, gives back to the world by doing whatever is needed for people to become self sufficient and teaching them to believe in themselves.

ANDY IS AVAILABLE FOR HIRING. GREAT FOR BIRTHDAYS, THEME PARTIES, LUNCHEONS, FUND RAISERS, FESTIVALS AND MORE!

ANDY LO RUSSO

DISCOVER THE FUN!

Sing & Cook Italian by Andy LoRusso

Includes Audio CD



New for 2006  
now includes  
CD!

**Book Includes:**

- Over 100 delicious recipes (Tantalizing fish & vegetarian dishes too)
- Antipastas, Soups, Salads, Pastas and Desserts (calorie-calculated pasta dishes and mouthwatering meals in less than 30 minutes)
- CD *Sing Along with Andy LoRusso* (Italian & English lyric to sing along with)
- Tips on healthy cooking
- Travel tips on Italy

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**Learn to sing:** O Sole Mio, Santa Lucia, Arriverderci Roma, That's Amore, Volare, Martha, Non ti Scorda di me, La Donna e Mobile, Funiculi, Funicula, Torna a Surriento and more!

Recommended shopping list included so that you can have on hand all the ingredients you'll need for that last minute meal preparation.

ANDY LO RUSSO