

Now I Know It Is Around Here Somewhere

How many of us have ever walked around a retail store in search of an item, give up the search, and ask a store associate for assistance. Ok, admit it... everyone has (or else they are too ashamed to admit it). The other day, a customer approached me. She was not entirely sure if I was working (apparently, the huge cart with crates of milk did not convince her).

"Excuse me, do you work here?"

"Well... I think so." (I was a bit confused)

She then asked the location of the rice. I tried to be as tactful as possible when I told her that she was standing right in front of it. I'll give her the benefit of the doubt since her back was turned to it. However, I knew she just wanted to crawl in a hole as she turned around only to come face-to-face with bags of regular rice, boxes of Minute Rice, boxes of Rice-a-Roni, and other variations on a theme.

This reminded me of another incident involving a customer who was having difficulty while searching for an item. I will never forget the time my cousin (who does read my blog) came in and asked if we sold sun-dried tomatoes. I approached the store manager at the time who looked at me with a bewildered expression and asked:

"Why the heck would I carry sun-dried tomatoes? Those would be one of the dearest items I could ever carry. I would be stuck with them for years."

What a guy, tactful to a fault. Personality though... wet blanket (is that a term?). He was probably right, though; I

don't see sun-dried tomatoes being a big seller in our small store and they would probably sit on the shelf in danger of becoming outdated.

And from a personal observation... do they still make Spicy Guacamole Pringles (Potato CRISPS)? I asked the boss today if we could carry them. They are the best variety of the bunch (much better I am sure than the NEW DILL PICKLE variety). Unfortunately, she looked in her big ordering book and came up empty. Sorry game night fans. Verrrry interrrresting... after searching on the [Pringles website](#), I have discovered that the spicy guacamole variety is still around.