

To Whom It May Concern:

Craig's areas of expertise are many: excellent people skills, patience, clear and concise teaching techniques, progressive thinking and exceptional communication skills are just a few of his qualities.

My first opportunity to work with Craig was in 1995 when he hired me as a lease administrator for The Sharper Image. Having no direct experience in lease administration Craig was quick to observe that I had the skill set and the desire to learn a new area of the retail business that would complement the needs of this position. Craig provided me with the direction, the education and the tools for me to soon advance to the position of Manager of the Real Estate department for The Sharper Image.

In 1998, Craig again provided me with additional opportunities when he hired me as his assistant and to manage the lease administration department of Smith & Hawken. Working with Craig again was a pleasure in addition to being a challenging and rewarding experience. The challenges were due to the internal changes within the parent company of Smith & Hawken and the experience was rewarding because it afforded me the opportunity to learn additional aspects of the retail business that I had not previously experienced.

I would consider it an honor to work with Craig again. His passion, focus, loyalty and dedication to his work and to the people he works with, are traits that instill commitment and dedication in everyone that has the good fortune to work with him.

Ann Tarrel,  
Former Executive Assistant,  
Smith & Hawken  
Former Manager of Real Estate,  
The Sharper Image