



BOYNTON FORUM

ALSO SERVING LAKE WORTH & WELLINGTON

ON THE SPOT

PHIL MATERIO

FOUNDER AND
OWNER, McMOW ART
GLASS

■ Age 65

■ He is married to Shanon Materio, his business partner and a Palm Beach County commissioner.

■ They started McMow Art Glass, 701 N. Dixie Highway, in Lake Worth in 1976 with \$200.

■ He grew up in Atlantic City.

■ The couple has three children – Philip Joseph (PJ), Jeanette and Taylor, the creative director at McMow Art Glass.

How did you get involved in art glass?

I earned a degree from [Florida Atlantic University] and wanted to be a high school English teacher. I was working on construction and many of



the office buildings being built by Genz & Co. had stained glass windows. I hired a student from FAU to help with the final touches. That student was Shanon and we eventually married and started our own business in a warehouse in Boca Raton.

How long have you two been together?

We are married 39 years and have been working together for 35 of those years.

What is your secret for working and living together?

A lot of compromise. Know when to give it up and when to stand your ground. Also, we have a division of labor; Shanon concentrates on the business side, and I do much of the glass fusing, kiln work and teach classes. There's a delicate balance between the economic side of the business and the creative, artistic side

ON THE STREET



LINDSEY

Phil is a family man, a business man, an artist and neighborhood advocate. He has helped build of the business, where your focus is on creating something beautiful.

Of which accomplishments are you most proud?

We recently completed a major installation in the iconic ballroom at the Brazilian Court Hotel in Palm Beach.

Also, I'm proud of the work we did for Gianni

community in dozens of ways, including donating funds to help our Little Free Library Program. Phil is a fabulous neighbor, a stunning glass artist, a popular teacher with a great heart. He's the epitome of a good neighbor. -- *Mary Lindsey, neighbor*

Phil is well educated in the field of art glass and loves Florida artists. He's a loyal friend and family man. He's the type of

Versace's mansion in South Beach. We created all the stained glass windows in his home. We learned a lot from him and learned to take our designs up a step and make them more exciting. He pushed us to take more risks and more chances with design and color.

And, we've done projects all over the world, including California, Rus-



JURNEY

friend you can call in an emergency – and I have. I'm proud he is my friend. -- *Roberta Journey, friend*

sia, South American and the Caribbean.

What drives you?

It's great to feel like we're leaving a legacy for my grandkids and great-grandkids. Our works will still be seen hundreds of years from now. Not many people can say that. It's also rewarding to teach people how fun and easy it is to create glass art.