

Gene Mangiante Named Candid Color Systems' 2006 Customer of the Year

by [Brian Speers](#)



The Eden Roc Resort was the setting for the Candid Color Systems annual awards presentation at the CCS Winter Seminar in Miami Beach, and Gene Mangiante, a CCS customer from Memphis, TN, was awarded the highest honor as he walked away with the Customer of the Year Award for 2006.

Accustomed to winning awards at the annual prize presentation, Gene has had a lock on the Fastest Growing Customer award for the past three years, and, in fact, walked away with that award again this year. A CCS customer since 2002 Gene has shown steady—and double-digit—growth each year since he began sending his work to us in a variety of photo markets.

Gene's business is diverse in *many* ways: Sports, weddings, school portraits, corporate and campus markets make up the greater part of his business. But what makes his enterprise distinctive in many ways is that he operates companies in three states; Tennessee, Florida, and Mississippi. Each of these operations functions independently with their own employees, and with a recipe for success that is challenged on a daily basis. Gene is exceptional in staying ahead of the curve with regard to business practices, and is a risk taker when it comes to innovation and business acquisitions.

In addition, Gene's contributions to CCS and other customers have been notable for the amount of hours he has spent beta testing new software. His assistance has helped tremendously in improving the direction and the content of many CCS software programs over the years.

We are proud to announce Gene Mangiante as CCS 2006 Customer of the Year.

Other award winners were:



Most Valuable Employee – Isabel Rego-Almedia, Island Photo, Glen Cove, NY

Newcomer of the Year – Artistry Photography- Patty and Brad Holter, Minneapolis, MN

Most Prom Units Sold – the Strong Family, Flash, Dallas and Ft. Worth, TX

Kyp Hardaway Award of Excellence (Hot Shot) – Jaime Parker, Panoramic Photomarketing, Tuscaloosa, AL

Kyp Hardaway Award of Excellence (Big Shot) – Bob Olmstead, Campus Composites, Norman, OK

Sam Milling Customer Service Award – Tom Lieblong, Candid Color of Arkansas, Cabot, AR

Fastest Growing Big Shot – Gene Mangiante, Mangiante Photography, Memphis, TN



Gene Mangiante is photographed with Greg Eisen, last year's Customer of the Year in the traditional Green Bathrobe, symbolic of the COY.

Jack E. Counts, Jr., President of Candid Color Systems, presents the Customer of the Year Award for 2006 to Gene Mangiante.

Fastest Growing Hot Shot – Joey Fasullo, Candid Campus, Houston, TX

Photo, Lawrence, KS

Most Composites Sold – Bud and Susan Stagg, University

Hero Award – Arch Booth, Magic Memories, Lake Mary, FL.

Most Group Pictures Sold – Bob and Gail Knight, Bob Knight Photo, Tallahassee, FL

Best New Idea - Bob and Gail Knight, Bob Knight Photo, Tallahassee, FL

Most Graduates Photographed – Chappell Studios, Fairfield, IA

Best Website - Bob and Gail Knight, [Bob Knight Photo](#) Tallahassee, FL

Most Sports Finishing – Greg and Eric Eisen, Sportography, Brookfield, CT

Highest Online Race Sales – Marty Evenson, Sport Photo, Dallas, TX

Dan Hays Contributor of the Year – Radley Muller, Yary Photography, Bellingham, WA

