

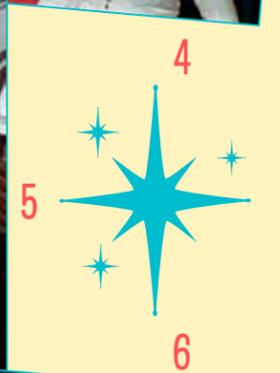
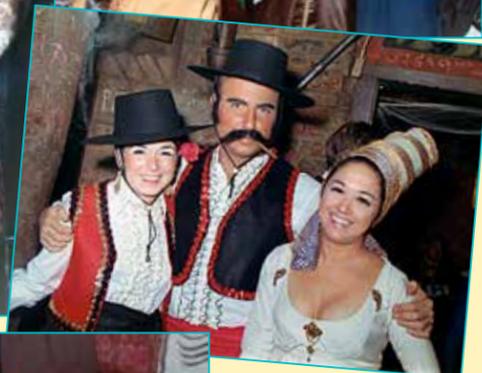
## Halloween Parties Get Bigger: Catacombs of Ivanhoe '68

During the late 1960s the tradition of Marvin's extravagant Halloween parties started to outgrow the original location of Marvin's Evanston home. They began to be thrown at large hotel ballrooms and restaurants that could handle the massive amount of employees, family members, guests, clients, celebrities, and entertainment that began to show up to these lavish affairs. "The parties were like out of this world. He might have put Hollywood to shame," declared employee Sam Cottone. There would often be famous performers such as the

singer Felicia Sanders and actress Margot Whiting. Among the hundreds of people who would attend, there would be many toy industry executives. "He'd get all the clients from almost every toy company,"

Cottone explained, "They looked forward to it. He'd invite them all."

The 1968 Halloween party took place in the entire lower level of the Ivanhoe Restaurant that was called the Catacombs. No expense was spared and the buffet was tremendous. One of the partygoers recalled, "Everybody came in full costumes and Marvin gave away two trips to Las Vegas that cost \$500 a piece for the winners of the best costumes. One couple came in full costume as the *Planet of the Apes*. My friend came as the pope and his wife was a nun and they won a trip to Vegas. The Halloween parties were fabulous." Shown here is a sampling of the 1968 festivities that night in the Catacombs.



- 1 The front of the Ivanhoe Restaurant circa 1955.
- 2 Marvin in costume.
- 3 Marvin with guests.
- 4 Partygoers Jeff Breslow (center) with his first wife Marlene (left) and Pauline Camberis (right).
- 5 Marvin Glass sculptor Lyle Conway created his own masks and costume for his *Planet of the Apes* costumes. The movie had just been released and it is said he was making monkey sounds all night. Conway would go on to be famous after leaving MGA for sculpting the many growing looks of Audrey II in the 1986 Frank Oz motion picture titled *Little Shop of Horrors*. He and two others were nominated for an Academy Award for Best Visual Effects for their work in the film.
- 6 Employee Howard Morrison with his first wife Montana.
- 7 Guests at the bar.
- 8 Marvin's first and third wife Dorothy is shown here at the buffet table.
- 9 A guest singing with the band.
- 10 Employee Kathy Dunn in her French Maid costume.
- 11 Employee Rouben Terzian and guest.
- 12 A closeup of Marvin's costume.
- 13 Marvin's one-time girlfriend Elizabeth Ann Roberts is singing with the band. Modelmaker Sam Cottone is in the center playing guitar.