

JOHN SCHROWANG
CLASS OF 1983

John Schrowang is a restaurant executive and the founder of Red Elephant Pizza & Grill. His restaurant career began in high school at Julie's Place, a Tallahassee favorite, where he worked alongside friends and learned every role in the restaurant. He later joined Steak & Ale while attending Florida State University, continuing to build experience in restaurant operations and leadership.

After returning to Tallahassee, Schrowang managed Applebee's and transformed the Village Square location into one of the company's top-performing restaurants, earning multiple General Manager of the Year awards. In 1995, he opened the Tallahassee Outback Steakhouse, which became one of the company's most successful locations. Driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, he opened the first Red Elephant Pizza & Grill in 2006, creating a family-friendly concept centered on fresh flavors, warm service, and affordable quality. Nearly 20 years later, Red Elephant remains a beloved local brand, and Schrowang's career reflects hard work, hospitality, entrepreneurship, and a deep love of serving people.