

**ENTERTAINMENT**

ELVIS! IS IN THE BUILDING

By **Brian Niemietz**

August 11, 2007 | 9:00am

WELL, it's one for the money and two for the show, but it takes at least five men in white jumpsuits to keep

the legacy of Elvis Presley alive in New York City. Thirty years after The King fell from his throne, or commode as it were, his look, sound and moves are still in high demand from impersonators as the Aug. 16 anniversary of his passing approaches. And we're not just talking about in the Deep South or Vegas, thankavermuch.

While you can spend the anniversary watching 24 hours of Elvis movies on TCM, or buying a Graceland full of new Elvis merchandise, we asked five local Elvii what it's like to spend this week inside The King's blue suede shoes.

GENE DINAPOLI

Hometown: The Bronx

Time on the job: 27 years

Most requested song: "My Way"

Other gigs: John Belushi impersonator

Claim to fame: 3½ octave range, "Pres'piration"

DiNapoli has been imitating Tupelo's favorite son since he was 14 years old. Now he does 10 to 15 tribute shows per month, including bar mitzvahs, divorce parties and a recurring gig at Michael's restaurant near his house. In July he did a record 27 performances.

"I was once asked to do a funeral, which I didn't do," says DiNapoli, who has done the next best thing — nursing homes. Averaging \$600 per gig, he can afford to turn down work. DiNapoli also once performed at a party for Vanessa Williams and even appeared on a Chelsea Piers bill with Bette Midler in 2005, even though he concedes that he doesn't look a lot like his idol.

"If you want a guy who looks exactly like Elvis, that's probably not me. But if you want a guy who sweats for every dime, I'm your man."

And who doesn't?