

Bashas' Timeline



1884

Tanuis Basha (seated) emigrates from Lebanon to New York. His son Najeeb joins him in 1886.



1901

Najeeb marries Najeeby Srour.



1910

Najeeb, wife Najeeby and kids move to Congress Junction, Arizona.



1915

Najeeb (center) in front of his new store in Ray-Sonora.

**RAY MERCHANT
WILL ERECT A
LARGE BLDG.**

Following plans on the annexation of new stores on Boston street across the information, given out by C. A. Basha, that N. W. Basha, a big merchant from Ray, Ariz., will erect a two-story building to cost \$25,000, on the corner of Boston and Washington streets, which is across and below the Bill Bryson Service Station. In addition Mr. Basha will build a home to cost \$5,000.

Mr. Basha has been in town for the last two days. He bought the corner lot for \$2500, its dimensions being 45 x 125. On the first floor will be a clothing and dry goods store to be operated by N. Basha. Second story rooms will be available for rent on the Washington street side of the building. Above will be hotel rooms.

The new citizen has been operating a large store at Ray and a successful one of the most enterprising merchants in the state. He is an excellent addition to the long list of newcomers for Chandler.



1920

The Basha family moves to Chandler and opens a mercantile on Boston Street.

Bashas' Timeline cont.



1920s

Bashas' founders Ike and Eddie Basha Sr. learn the retail ropes in their family's mercantile on Boston Street in Chandler.

Basha, Pioneer Merchant, Dies

Najeeb Basha, pioneer merchant of Chandler, a good citizen, a splendid neighbor and kind, loving father, passed away at the family home on North Washington street Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock after suffering two weeks from a long standing ailment.

Mr. Basha came to Chandler nine years ago, establishing the Boston Store on East Boston street. He has reared a family of eight children, all of whom have attended the local schools. He is survived by his wife; a sister, Mrs. Abraham, here from Colorado; and children, Aeneas, Eddy, Constance, Mrs. Edna Luffy of Phoenix, Mrs. Mary Felix of Ray, Larice, Camille and Zelma.

Having been born in Balbus, Syria, on May 19, 1870, he came to New York with his father when a young man and there married Najeeb's brother. He moved to Ray, Arizona, 22 years ago and moved to Chandler 11 years later.

Funeral services were held in the Memory chapel of A. L. Moore and Sons in Phoenix at 4 p. m. Wednesday and a Masonic burial was conducted in the Greenwood Memorial park.

Chandler No. 34, F. and A. M., of which he was a member, served as pallbearers and held graveside services.

Rev. R. O. Helms was in charge of services at the chapel in Phoenix.

Chandler business and professional houses closed during the services.



1932

Najeeb dies. Ike and Eddie start Bashas' to help family finances. Their first store is five miles south of Chandler in a cotton-growing community that had been founded by Goodyear in 1916, but had passed through several hands since. One of Goodyear's left-behind vehicles served as an early delivery truck.



1933-1935

Sister Camille (left in left photo, seen with siblings Ike and Larice) suggests switching from dry goods to groceries. The mercantile on Boston Street (right photo) was renamed "Bashas" and also followed the grocery format.



1936

First non-Chandler Bashas' opens in Mesa. Manager Don Cooper, seen here, would one day become company president.



Bashas' Timeline cont.



1937

Eddie Basha Jr. is born.



1956

Ike and Eddie open their first big supermarket at 7th Ave. and Osborn.



1960s

After finishing college at Stanford, Eddie Jr. (left) comes back to Arizona to learn the grocery industry from his father.



1968

Eddie Basha Jr. era begins. Here, Eddie (right) meets with his leadership team in the early 1970s.



(l to r) Johnny and Eddie Basha break ground for Bashas' Window Rock with Navajo tribal leaders Peter MacDonald and Johnny Thompson.

1981

The first Bashas' Diné opens in Chinle and is followed by several other stores on the Navajo Nation.



1993

Bashas' acquires Arizona Supermarkets Inc. and gets AJ's Fine Foods.

Bashas' Timeline cont.



1994

Bashas' acquires Food City when founder Noah Billings retires.

1996

Bashas' acquires Mega Foods. The stores are converted into both Bashas' and Food City stores.

1999

Bashas' acquires Eddie's Country Store in Pinetop.

2001

Bashas' acquires Southwest Supermarkets. All stores are converted to the Food City format.



2013

Edward N. "Trey" Basha III era begins. L-R, Mike Basha, Johnny Basha, Trey Basha, Ike Basha and David Basha.



2015-Present

Remodels of all stores begins.