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Former Beatle in town? 'We never said he ...'

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These celebrity impersonators performed last week in Wausau. Mike Oltersdorf, right, had a lot of people who saw him at a Wausau restaurant believing he was the real deal. *Contributed Photo*

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The great mystery of whether Paul McCartney was in town last week has been solved.

It was not the 65-year-old former Beatle who dined at 2510 Restaurant on Wednesday night. Rather, it was professional look-a-like Mike Oltersdorf, a 57-year-old from West Dundee, Ill.

"The only difference between Paul and I is a galaxy of talent and billions of dollars," Oltersdorf said.

Oltersdorf was hired by Delco Estate Planning Services, an Elkhorn-based financial planning company with an office in Wausau, to perform at the company's annual appreciation dinner for its senior clients. Oltersdorf was joined by Dean Martin and Elvis Presley, played by Todd Eckart, and Ann-Margret, played by Laura DeWitt.

"I might have dropped a little leak that someone famous would be at 2510," Delco president Mike O'Dell said with a laugh. "We never said he was Paul McCartney. Before we knew it, people were looking through the windows, pounding on the doors and chasing us when we left."

And what do all those who swore they saw Sir Paul at the restaurant say now that the truth is out?

"I'm disappointed," said Wausau resident Colette Krahn, who dined at the table next to Oltersdorf's closed-off room. "It sure was an interesting diversion."

Tate Baumer, owner of Baumer Limousine and son of 2510 owner Pat Baumer, could only laugh.

"I was about 90/10 (percent sure) that it was him when I first heard it, but then over the weekend I thought about it and was 50/50," he said. "It sure was an elaborate ruse."