

RESOLUTION NO. 03-372

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT THE KEY WEST ART IN PUBLIC PLACES BOARD SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR A SCULPTURE OF BISHOP ALBERT KEE FOR PLACEMENT AT THE SOUTHERNMOST POINT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Art in Public Places Board is hereby requested to solicit proposals for a sculpture of Bishop Albert Kee for placement at the Southernmost Point.

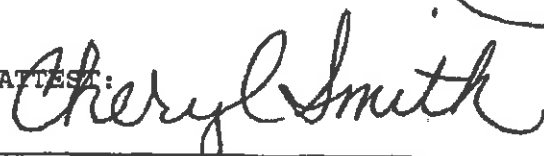
Section 2: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the presiding officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this 5 day of November, 2003.

Authenticated by the presiding officer and Clerk of the Commission on November 6, 2003.

Filed with the Clerk November 6, 2003.

ATTEST:



CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK


JIMMY WERKLEY, MAYOR



On January 5th, 1941, Albert Leo Kee was born to Carnetta and the Late Julian "Yankee" Kee, Sr. in Key West, Florida. He was the eldest of seven children.

At an early age he was given the job of helping to raise his younger brothers and sisters while his mother did domestic work and took in laundry and his father was a commercial fisherman.

His early education was at Ms. Nora's School. He then attended Father John Henry Reese's classes and Fredrick Douglass School for middle and Senior High School. In 1959, Albert graduated from High School.

He worked many jobs in and around Key West. He would soon follow in his father's footsteps and become a Commercial Fisherman and Seller of Sea Shells where his grandmother started what was to become the family business many years before his birth under the old cork tree at what is now known as the Southernmost Point. At that time it was called "the Old Beach" or the "Colored Beach".

He enjoyed fishing, swimming, drawing, singing, playing the guitar, hosting dinners and socials for family, friends and church members. He loved to travel, meet people, laugh, attend church gatherings and minister the word of God. Albert was a very handy man and he often referred to himself as a jack of all trades, master of none.

Albert married Sandra Burchill on March 18, 1962 and their first child, Brenda was born on January 3, 1963.

Around 1968 Albert accepted God as his personal Savior. He joined the Church of God of Prophecy where his wife was a member. On October 25, 1973 he was ordained as a Deacon and in June, 1981 he was appointed Pastor of the Key West Church of God of Prophecy. On June 17, 1999, Pastor Kee was ordained as a Bishop.

Rev. Kee never met a stranger. He was always eager to lend a helping hand. He rendered funeral services for countless families, he visited the hospitals and nursing homes, his doors and heart were always open to those in need.

On Monday, August 25, 2003, God summoned an Angel to come down to Key West and blow his horn and call Albert's name. Bishop Kee's conch horn was silenced never to be heard again. His hands would never again wave to tourist, friends and family as they drove pass the place he loved so dear, The Southernmost Point. He would never again sound the familiar greeting, "Welcome to the Island" as the Conch Train drove by. Never again would his smile brighten our days.

In life Bishop Kee touched countless lives and in death many miss his presence, but as long a he is kept alive in our memories, he is just asleep.

He was a wonderful and loving husband, father, grandfather, father-in-law, son, brother, Pastor, family member, and friend.

There is so much that can be said for Bishop Kee, but this verse in 2 Timothy says it all.

2 Timothy 4: 7-8

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

He is Gone from our sight, but he will Never be Forgotten in our hearts~