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"Dr. True," to his friends, is truly a Keys person. Growing up part-time in Ohio and part-time in Key Colony Beach he quickly developed a love of The Florida Keys. His father earned his pilot's license and bought an airplane so getting back and forth was no problem for the family.

True enjoyed sharing the responsibility of flying the family plane on many trips to and from the Marathon airport, and quickly followed his father, becoming the youngest licensed pilot in America at the time. After his medical and surgical training, he joined his father's

practice in Southern Mississippi. This is where he met his wife, Lisa, and she began working with him. Through the years he missed the beauty and lifestyle of the Keys, so one day the family packed their bags and moved back to the Keys.

Dr. Lansden practiced at The Florida Keys Center for Plastic Surgery in Tavernier for seven years, where he was Chief of Surgery at Mariner's Hospital. During the recession, Dr. Lansden went to cover the need for a facial and hand trauma at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and Heart Institute, where he received an appointment as Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery for Florida State University. Now, after six years he is returning home to the Florida Keys.

Dr. True and his wife, Lisa, are the parents to five sons, Ken, Tommy, David, Tyler, and Michael; all grown up!

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Dr. True is offering free skin cancer screenings for a small donation of choice to the Florida Keys Children's Shelter.

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# A Tribute to Jack Snipes AKA Big Dick

by Denise Malefyt and Ronnie B.

for dating a white woman. He joined the Marine Corps and did his duty in Vietnam.

When Jack returned to the U.S., he decided to give music a try. He attended a Roy Orbison concert and got to meet the artist backstage. Soon Snipes was playing host to Orbison, taking him to all the Jacksonville night spots. After hearing Jack sing, Orbison gave him his blessing and encouragement.

From Jacksonville Snipes moved to Daytona where he met club owner Mike Pinner

ranting redneck version of an Andrew Dice Clay-type routine that entertained so many audiences there in the 80s and 90s. Everyone that knew him will tell you it was a carefully crafted facade that kept him smiling all the way to the bank.

Snipes made the news again not long before he retired. In 2009, 22-year-old Brandon Dowdy wanted to see Big Dick and the Extenders so badly that he stole a 120-ton locomotive and took a 7-mile joy ride to make it the the Redland



The Upper Keys community lost Jack Snipes in late October. He was truly an enigma. With his band, he was the raucously crude and rude Big Dick of "Big Dick and the Extenders," shouting obscenities, spewing x-rated jokes faster than a speeding locomotive, and known to literally pound people on the head with a 2-foot-long dangling rubber dildo. It was all in fun and all part of his fabulous musical show 6 nights a week at Woody's night club in Islamorada for many years, a "must see" for all locals and tourists.

During the daylight hours he changed the name of the band to "Big Richard's Family

Fun Band" and he still rocked the house. Missing was his raunchy persona and instead he was the real Jack Snipes, one of the nicest men you'd ever want to meet.

Jack had a heart of gold and was always first to volunteer to play benefits to help others. Jack so enjoyed giving, that for his birthday one year his wife Christine gifted him with a non-profit foundation so that he could give more to charity.

Snipes was born in South Carolina but grew up in Jacksonville, FL. His mother was Cherokee and his father a bootlegger. He attended Paxton High School and was captain of his swim team. At the University of Arkansas he was the star defensive line-man of the football team. Jack left college before graduation, after being racially harassed



The "Extenders," over the years, were comprised of just about every professional musician who ever passed through the Upper Keys. Too numerous to mention, they contributed to the bands reputation as one of the best!

who introduced Jack to the Orlando area. As his fame grew, so did his amphetamine addiction, so he moved to Lakeland to dry out. During that time Mike Pinner bought J's in Islamorada, changed the name to Woody's and called Snipes out of retirement to headline the club.

Jack took great pleasure in honing his unique take on a

Tavern to catch the show. He got to see the show but



got busted by Homeland Security!

Jack Snipes passed away at age 72, but his legend lives on. There will be a memorial and celebration of life on Sunday December 13th at the Lorelei Restaurant in Islamorada from noon to 4 and at

Woody's from 5 to 9. Don't miss it!

Special thanks to Thad Bowling for most of the photos on this page.



If you're familiar with Big Dick's body of work, you can just imagine what's being said at this 2012 benefit.