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As seen on Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives

on Food Network!!

Pilot House Restaurant:

Episode: "Succulent Sandwiches"

This trip, Guy Fieri's diggin' into succulent sandwiches! In Oakland, a real-deal butchery stacking up killer cheesesteak and off-the-chain chicken. In Modesto, Calif., a funky food truck putting pastrami on pretzel bread and cooking pulled pork in root beer. And in Key Largo, Florida, a seafood staple servin' up a sandwich that's become a local legend. (Episode: DV2407H)

13 Seagate Blvd., Key Largo, MM 99.6, 305-451-3142 www.pilothousemarina.com fb.com/pilothousekeylargo

Adopt a Key Largo Animal Shelter Pet

Meet a few of the animals who are currently available for adoption at the Key Largo Animal Shelter. If you are interested in taking one of these adorable furry friends home, stop by or call. The Shelter is located at mile marker 106 Oceanside; phone 305-451-0088



Athena

Don Moffett - 82nd Airborne Division, 5th Degree Black Belt...

The first question we locals hear from newcomers and visitors is "How long have you lived in the Keys" and the second is "What brought you here?" For Key Largo resident Don Moffett the first answer is simple, 28 years, the second answer is intriguing.

Moffett is originally from New York City. He joined the Army and was stationed in Ft. Brag in the 82nd Airborne Division of the Army Paratroopers from 1951 to 1954. During that time, this fearless guy jumped out of an airplane 13 times. After the service he went back to work as an iron worker. Climbing planks of hot metal and dangling from sky scrapers for 35 years is no big deal when you aren't afraid of heights, right?

During that time he met his good friend, Joe Hess, the former heavy weight full contact Karate champion. Don took Karate lessons from him, earning his 5th degree black belt. At that time Joe Hess owned a piece of paradise in Key Largo and Don and his family visited him here.

Soon Don and his friends retired and all started moving down here.



Don Moffit, a Leo, resting at home in Key Largo.

Moffett had joined the South Florida Chapter of the 82nd Airborne and about 15 years ago brought the chapter to march in the Key Largo 4th of July parade. They have done it every year since. Originally there were 15 paratroopers marching for us, but now they are down to just 5, with Moffett driving the truck. Since he had an operation on his ankle he can no longer

Don raised 3 children, 2 adopted sons and a beautiful biological daughter. He has been married to his lovely wife Phyllis for 32 years. Over the years he has appeared in movies with his friend Joe Hess who, by the way, got his ass kicked by Kevin Kostner in the movie "The Bodyguard!"

When Moffett was in his late 20s he discovered that he and drinking alcohol did not mix, he says, "much like Mentos and Diet Coke cause an eruption similar to Mt. Vesuvius." Don joined Alcoholics Anonymous and has been sober for 52 years. Over the years he sponsored many people in AA, one of which was Dion DiMucci, a famous singer song writer known as Dion and the Belmonts who has been sober 43 years. Moffett sends Dion a medallion each year to celebrate his AA birthday. He continues to sponsor people who need help.

Moffett designed the 82nd Airborne's license plate. The proceeds go to the state homes for Veterans Trust Fund, a measure that was sponsored by the late, great former Rep. Ken Sorensen in 2003.

Moffett is 82 now and in very good shape for his age. We thank him for his service to our country and his continuing support of our community.



S. FLA Chapter







Thanks to Neala from the Post Office for suggesting this article.