4 · The Coconut Telegraph · September 2020 September 2020 · The Coconut Telegraph · 5



Key Largo Conch House

100211 Overseas Highway • Key Largo

Featured on the Food Network

We're Open! 8am - 10 Daily **Breakfast + Lunch + Dinner**

Local Seafood **Vegetarian Entrées**



Cook Your Catch Pet Friendly • Kids' Menu Award-Winning **Lobster Bisque** -AND-**Conch Fritters**

Award-Winning Food & Coffee



Wine • Beer • Espresso Homemade Desserts

305-453-4844 www.keylargoconchhouse.com



An **oxymoron** is usually defined as a phrase in which two words of contradictory meaning are brought together:

- 1) Clearly misunderstood 2) Act naturally
- 3) Exact estimate
- 5) Small crowd
- 7) Pretty ugly
- 9) Only choice
- 4) Found missing
- 6) Fully empty
- 8) Seriously funny 10) Original copies

And the mother of them all: "Happily Married"!

Island Life and Island Death

Ever wonder what we locals do when a friend or loved one dies on our island? Would you know what to do?

Hypothetical situation: Your great aunt Nellie lives next door. You are her only living relative. One day Aunt Nellie has a few too many nips of Fireball and steps outside to shoot some iquanas. Her flip flops get tangled in the mangroves and she screams bloody murder then falls, cracking her head on a coral rock and dies. You heard her screams and came running but its too late. Aunt Nellie has gone to that great Tiki Bar in the sky. Soon the police arrive and summon the undertaker, who in the upper Keys is Tony Allen, owner of the Allen-Beyer Funeral Home.



Tony Allen or a member of his caring staff arrive in 45 minutes or so and remove Aunt Nellie's body. They are at your service 24 hours a day 7 days a week and they will leave you with an informational book if you are too distraught to discuss your options at that time. Before you can shake a stick, the



coconut telephone starts ringing, casseroles appear on your doorstep and well meaning friends have offered their "help."

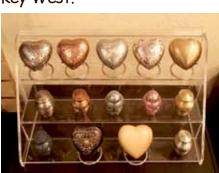
Your head is spinning. One of your friends suggests you call a crematorium in Miami because they offer what appears to be a low price but then you discover that they have all kinds of hidden expenses so it is not such a good deal at all, in fact it is a royal pain in the patootie!

You call Tony Allen and he will meet you at your home or in his office. Allen-Beyer will take care of everything you need including help with the required documents. One call does it all. 305-451-1444. Visit their website at WeCare@AllenBeyer.com. This is where they post the obituaries and there is also a free questbook for people to sign, leave comments or post photos.

Now you need to decide when and where to have a



memorial service or celebration of life. People can get very creative. I've heard of some doozies. One guy I knew got his ashes shot out of a cannon at the Elks Lodge. Someone else made little floating paper boats full of ashes that were sent off for a sail into the sunset. We released old Herbie in Jewfish Creek and emptied a can of Budweiser with flowers to send him off with his favorite beverage. A friend and her sisters distributed their mom's ashes in all the places they had enjoyed together, they even sprinkled some in Fast Buck Freddie's in Key West.



Aunt Nellie was in the Marine Corps and was proud of shooting "hundreds of those commie bastards" in the war (even though she missed every single one of them) so you decide the American Legion is the place to honor your beloved veteran. They have a beautiful place with lots of outdoor space and tables to socially distance while honoring your vet, plus the drinks are cheap Everyone takes a turn at expressing their fondest memories of Aunt Nellie. Then we all watch a video made by good friend Video Dave and there isn't a dry eye in the house. Then it is time for some comfort food. We recommend any of the fine restaurants listed in the Coconut Telegraph for catering. Keep things simple.



TONY ALLEN

Tony Allen embraced the Florida Keys with open arms when he purchased the Beyer Funeral Home from Marilyn Beyer and he has been operating it for 10 years. A native Floridian from Gainesville, he graduated from Gupton-Jones Funeral College in Georgia and also earned a Bachelors degree in business management. He was elected Key Largo Fire Commissioner and has held that position for 8 years. He has been a member of the Rotary for 9 years, Sons and Daughters of Italy for 10 years, a life member of the American Legion and is a Marine Corps veteran. He is a member of the UF Gator Club that meets at the Big Chill. They raise funds for scholarships to University of Florida. He is a young philanthropist founder for Mariners Hospital, Allen also donates to various local charities. His office is located at MM 101.5 Bayside, Key Largo.

The photos on this page show some of the beautiful options for storing and honoring your loved one that are available at Allen-Beyer Funeral Home.