



James "JC" Costello
Nov. 21, 1950 — May 19, 2023

Born in Winter Haven, JC worked as an engineering draftsman for many years, until meeting his wife, Sue Beal, in Pittsburgh in 1982. They moved to Key Largo in 1986, where JC took over a landscape maintenance company. Many remember him as the "man in white," seen working at many locations along US 1. He was proud of his commercial work featuring geometric precision, colorful bougainvilleas and crotons, and he always had time for a cup of coffee with anyone who stopped by.

JC played trumpet for years, in his youth. Later he switched to harmonica and the blues, which he enjoyed immensely, grateful to play with and learn from other local musicians in the Upper Keys. He was always studying the blues masters and trying to improve.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Musician's Relief Fund, c/o Elks Lodge, PO Box 255, Tavernier, FL 33070-0255.

His first wilderness camping trip was at 6 months old; he was an Eagle Scout and an outdoorsman, once briefly holding a national record for rifle shooting. JC was an avid fisherman, often fishing Flamingo and the Everglades. He was skilled, especially at catching snook. He went at every opportunity, in a Dolphin skiff he customized himself, and enjoyed just being on the water, even if no fish came home with him.

Another passion was growing unique crotons from seed, combining the genetics of the different plants to see what would grow from it. He was a member of the Croton Society, and other members would come to admire and take cuttings from his plants.

He will be missed as one of the Keys characters in town.

Dress like a Florida Keys local and be comfortable in the sun in our DRI-FIT shirt designed by Carol Ellis | Little Salt Photography
featuring original artwork of the **HISTORIC FISHING VILLAGE OF DOWNTOWN CARD SOUND**



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DRI - FIT FISHING SHIRTS

SPF 50, long sleeve, fishing performance shirt in aluminum, blue mist or white.

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FRED'S TILTON HILTON - DOWNTOWN CARD SOUND ROAD

On the back of the shirt is Carol's original image of Fred's Place - the "Tilton Hilton." The restaurant, complete with slanting dance floor, blue crabs and cold beer, was located on the curve just across the Monroe County line, in the historic fishing village of Downtown Card Sound.

The photograph, taken in 1988 is a reminder of the once thriving community of nonconformists, squatters, and fishermen, who made their living from the surrounding waters, mostly by selling blue crabs. In its peak during the late 50's, this area was home to 100 residents, some who had State issued leases for "fishing camps."

Hurricane destruction, along with the politics of environmental safety, ushered in clean-up crews and by 2010, just a few wooden docks, and Alabama Jacks remain in Downtown Card Sound.

ORIGINAL LOCAL ARTWORK BY

Little Salt Photography
305-451-7778

Laws We Live By

1. Law of Mechanical Repair

After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

2. Law of Gravity

Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

3. Law of Probability

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

4. Law of Random Numbers

If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.

5. Variation Law

If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

6. Law of the Bath

When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.

7. Law of Close Encounters

The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

8. Law of the Result

When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will... and vice versa!

9. Law of Biomechanics

The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

10. Law of the Theater & Hockey Arena

At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end. The aisle people also are very surly folk.

11. The Coffee Law

As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

12. Murphy's Law of Lockers

If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.



13. Law of Physical Surfaces

The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug

14. Law of Logical Argument

Anything is possible if you

don't know what you are talking about.

15. Law of Physical Appearance

If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

16. Law of Public Speaking

A closed mouth gathers no feet!

17. Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

Corollary: Entertainment Television

As soon as you find a television program that you really like, it will be cancelled.

18. Doctors' Law

If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.



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