

APPLICANT

JAMES T. BARKER

POSSIBLE LOCATION IDENTIFICATION

- Park being staged at the corner of Granada and Alhambra across from the Coral Gables Country Club

BIOGRAPHY

Jim was born on August 26, 1929 in Valdosta, Georgia. One of five siblings, his father was a railroad worker who moved his family to Jacksonville, Florida when he was a year old. After graduating from Andrew Jackson High School and serving six years in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict and Berlin Airlift, he attended Jacksonville University where he graduated with honors in 1959. He is a member of the first four-year class to graduate from JU.

He then moved to South Florida with Southern Bell and worked in various Corporate Affairs capacities, which led him to Coral Gables, and it was love at first sight. He and his wife, Montye, loved the City fiercely and he worked tirelessly on behalf of its citizens and landmarks to ensure that its beauty would live on.

Jim lived in the City until the time of his death, November 2, 2015.

BACKGROUND

Coral Gables City Commission: 1989-2001 (Three consecutive four-year terms)

Instrumental in renovations of the Coral Gables Youth Center

Helped establish the Donald R. Hopkins/William A. Cooper Scholarship Program

George E. Merrick Award Distinguished Honoree and Winner: 2008 and 2010 respectively

Board of Directors, Doctors Hospital: Nine years

President, Orange Bowl Committee, 1988-89

President, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, 1972-73

President, Junior Orange Bowl Committee

President, Dade League of Cities

President, Rotary Club of Coral Gables

Volunteer, Disabled Boy Scouts of Dade County and Goodwill Industries