



WILTON MANORS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORICAL NOTES

OCTOBER, 2022

Paul A. Kuta

Wilton Manors Pioneer - 2022

by Ron Ulm

Wilton Manors Historical Society

Paul A. Kuta represented the City of Wilton Manors as its Pioneer at Broward County's 46th Annual Pioneer Day on October 15, 2022. This is an honor bestowed on residents of Broward, who, through their professional or business, civic, educational, historic, artistic or inspirational contributions, have made an impact on their local communities.

Paul was raised in Meriden, Connecticut. After high school graduation, he attended Providence College in Rhode Island and received a B.A. in Political Science in 1963. He received his M.A. in National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California in 1982.

He served on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1963 to 1966. After his honorable discharge, he began his civilian career with the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C.; serving mainly as a management and budget officer. Upon his retirement from DoD in 1996, Paul relocated to Wilton Manors.

He quickly became a civic activist; serving on both the Board of the Wilton Manors Civic Association and the city's Budget Review Committee for over ten years. In addition, he has been an officer on the Boards of both the Friends of the Wilton Manors Library and Wilton Manors Historical Society for more than 20 years each. And, as City officials will attest, he is also an active commentator at virtually every City Commission meeting.

In 2019, Paul was honored with a City of Wilton Manors Proclamation for his "Lifetime Achievement in Volunteerism".



Paul and sister Sharon at Pioneer Day

Paul shares his memories of Wilton Manors below:

I remember attending the grand celebration for the 50th anniversary of Wilton Manors in 1997 and having historian Stuart McIver sign my copy of his book about our city. Little did I know then that I would become the long-standing Treasurer of the Wilton Manors Historical Society when it was reactivated in 2003 after a period of dormancy. I also was pleased to have the lead role in gaining Wilton Manors City Council approval to designate the Woman's Club and Richardson Historic Park as historic landmarks in Wilton Manors.

I am pleased to have a continuing role in the annual Wilton Manors Veterans Day ceremony. I am proud of our Veterans Memorial right in the heart of our City.

I continue to get great satisfaction in chairing the Friends of the Library outreach book events to raise funds for our local public library. I have done this for over 20 years. I am amused to be known as the "Book Man" in Wilton Manors.

I was raised in a family where contributing to one's community was part of everyday life. In April 2019 I was honored to receive a City Proclamation in which I was recognized as the "First Ever" recipient of the "Lifetime Achievement in Volunteerism" Community Spirit Award.

I recognize all the valuable contributions made by those Wilton Manors residents who came before me. It has been my pleasure to offer my time and talents for the past twenty-six years; and I plan to help keep Wilton Manors the great place it continues to be.



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