



VILLAGE OF PINECREST

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Village Council dedicates street to Pinecrest Pioneer, Goodyear blimp pilot

Pinecrest, Fla. – William Wilder made a lasting impression on those who knew him. Most endearing was his knack for playing with the neighborhood children and helping his neighbors.

“His three children and work as a captain pilot with Eastern Airlines kept him busy. But when was home, he found time to get out and play with the children and chat with neighbors,” said Gil Levine, who was Wilder’s neighbor and friend. “His wife Onie would often open the door to little persons who would ask if Mr. Wilder could come out and play.”

Levine petitioned the Village Council to name their neighborhood street after Wilder. The Council agreed and dedicated Southwest 113th Street from Southwest 72nd Court to Southwest 73rd Court as William Wilder Way.

Wilder moved to Pinecrest in 1965. He served in the U.S. Navy during World World II from 1942 to 1946. He later piloted the iconic Goodyear blimp and then joined Miami-based Eastern Airlines, where he was a pilot for 28 years.

Retirement did not stop his active lifestyle, recalled Levine. “Bill was always out busying himself with yard and maintenance of his home and even the chores of his neighbors, who knew he could always be called upon for a helping hand.”

Wilder passed away at home in his beloved neighborhood in October 2012.

Pictures from the January 16 street dedication can be downloaded at <http://ge.tt/4FsP8wF1?c>.

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