

EDWARD D. STONE JR. (1932 - 2009)

## EDWARD D. STONE JR. TRAIL AT RIVERWALK HISTORY DISTRICT

# EDWARD D. STONE JR.

## FORT LAUDERDALE COMMUNITY LEADER

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Fort Lauderdale's quest in the 1980's to become "The Best City of its Size" by 1994 required such commitment from many individuals who took the clay that was our early city and molded it into the extraordinary one we know today. One very important individual at the forefront of envisioning that greatness for Fort Lauderdale was landscape architect Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Ed Stone Jr. was the first-born son of the renowned architect Edward Durell Stone. Raised and educated in the northeast, Ed received a degree in Architecture from Yale, after which he served as a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force, where he was able to see the world and revel in the "natural beauty of the land." This experience fed a desire to pursue a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from Harvard University. Ed's desire to move to Florida and his passion for landscape architecture would serve to fuel his entire life. In 1959, Stone moved to Fort Lauderdale and began his career working with Fred Stresau, one of the pioneers of landscape architecture in the State of Florida. The next year, he founded Edward D. Stone, Jr. and Associates (EDSA), at first working out of his garage.

Realizing that commercial work would be more impactful than residential, he began to collaborate with his father's firm and over time, became well-known both domestically and internationally. Under Ed's leadership, EDSA greatly impacted tourism, community-living and urban design in the United States, especially in Florida, as well as in the Caribbean and Europe. Since 1960, the firm has received over 300 statewide, national and international awards.

Ed was elected a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and in 1994 was awarded the Society's prestigious ASLA Medal, the "highest honor the American Society of Landscape Architects may bestow upon a landscape architect whose lifetime achievements and contributions to the profession have had a unique and lasting impact on the welfare of the public and the environment."

Stone also served three consecutive four-year terms on the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, appointed by Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter. He served as a consultant to the Committee for a More Beautiful Capital in Washington, D.C., and to the Governor's Conference on Environmental Quality in the State of Florida. He was an active member of the Urban Land Institute and was honored to serve numerous other professional and civic organizations.

Under Ed's influence and leadership, EDSA has partnered with the City of Fort Lauderdale for more than three decades on several significant public realm projects that have helped to redefine the city as a world class destination. Most notably, Ed was a passionate advocate and design leader of the Riverwalk and Beach Revitalization projects, both of which were key to Fort Lauderdale's renaissance in the 1990's. These public design initiatives have resulted in over \$1 billion of private sector investment, stimulated numerous redevelopment projects, and improved public access and use of Fort Lauderdale's most prominent assets for both residents and visitors.

After nearly 60 years, the firm that Ed Stone founded in his Fort Lauderdale garage remains committed to his ideals, delivering world class projects that greatly enhance quality of life. Ed was drawn to such opportunities to shape the public environment and improve quality of life, noting: "We want to harness the resources of the earth and marry them to the needs of people". Most recently, the Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement project has carried on Ed's vision of employing great design as a means to create high quality public space that is accessible to all.

For those who knew him, there is only one word that can be used to describe Ed Stone: gentleman. In a competitive world, very few can persist in maintaining the qualities of honesty, frankness and respect for others. Ed personified these qualities and no one who had the pleasure of meeting Ed could ever forget him...he was a true treasure whose legacy should be memorialized in Fort Lauderdale, the adopted city to which he committed his life and work.



# VISIONARY, INNOVATOR, INFLUENCER, MENTOR, GENTLEMAN

- Established **EDSA** in **1960** in Fort Lauderdale, the adopted city to which he committed his life and work.
- Under Ed's leadership, EDSA greatly impacted tourism, community-living and urban design across the globe and especially in South Florida.
- Under Ed's influence, the **Riverwalk and Beach Revitalization** design initiatives resulted in over **\$1 billion of private sector investment**, stimulated numerous redevelopment projects and improved public access and use of Fort Lauderdale's most prominent assets for both residents and visitors.



- Ed was awarded the prestigious **ASLA Medal**, the “highest honor bestowed upon a landscape architect whose lifetime achievements and contributions to the profession have had a unique and lasting impact on the welfare of the public and the environment.”
- Ed served three consecutive terms on the **U.S. Commission of Fine Arts**, appointed by Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter.
- Ed was a consultant to the Governor's Conference on Environmental Quality in the State of Florida.
- Ed was an active member of the Urban Land Institute.
- Remembered was a true Gentleman, Ed personified the qualities of honesty, frankness and respect for others.



# AN ENDURING LEGACY

## Ed Stone Jr. - Projects of Influence in Fort Lauderdale

- The Riverwalk
- Beach Revitalization
- Bonnet House Museum & Gardens
- Broward County Library
- Holiday Park
- Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa
- Downtown Fort Lauderdale Streetscapes

OVER **375** COMMISSIONS IN BROWARD COUNTY

WELL OVER **100** COMPLETED STUDIES  
& PROJECTS IN FT. LAUDERDALE





# SUBMITTED LETTERS OF SUPPORT

NED ALLEN

DAVE ARMBRUSTER

JIM BLOSSER

GEORGE CALDWELL, JR., MD

SANDY CASTEEL

DOUG COOLMAN

BILL CRAWFORD

BARBARA DAVIS

DICK DICKINSON

BOB DUGAN

GENIA ELLIS

JAY FLYNN

KONA GRAY

JIM HADEN

DAVE HARDIN

JOHN HARRIGAN

PAUL KISSINGER

SCOTT LAMONT

MARCO LARREA

RALPH MARRINSON

JOAN MIKUS

JIM MOTTA

KEN ORTNER

TIM PETRILLO

ERIC PROPPES

JOHN ROPES

PATRICK SHAVLOSKE

ALICE AND JOE SMITH

DOUG SMITH

GEORGE STANZIALE



# QUOTES OF APPRECIATION

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“Riverwalk has a deep and rich history of working with Edward D. Stone, Jr. of EDSA. Having the chance to honor someone who has made such sweeping contributions is something we should all strive to do.”

*Genia Ellis*

“It was my privilege to work with Ed for more than 20 years. I learned so much from him about land design, environmentally sound design principles and what it meant to be a proud member and steward of the City of Fort Lauderdale.”

*Jay Flynn*

“Suffice it to say that Ed was a consistent and guiding visionary for many of the successful projects such as Riverwalk . . . Beach Redevelopment and other efforts.”

*Jim Blosser*

“We have much to thank and praise Ed Stone for during his decades of contribution for our City. He was a most generous and wonderfully talented gentleman and always a joy to work with. I look forward to you honoring him with this park dedication.”

*Sandy Casteel*

“In my opinion naming the historic Riverwalk district after Ed Stone Jr. is a fitting memorial to a man who helped build this great city he called home for many years.”

*Alice Smith*

“Ed chose the City of Fort Lauderdale, and this City has been the beneficiary of more than half a century of Ed’s professionalism, community participation and leadership in the profession locally and internationally.”

*Bill Crawford*

“Ed had many wonderful qualities that most successful people have, but his sense of vision for complicated projects was unmatched. His work and the work of his firm EDSA on his beloved Fort Lauderdale were iconic.”

*Jim Motta*

“Ed was one of Fort Lauderdale’s truest treasures. His vision and work within Fort Lauderdale helped transform us into the city that we have become.”

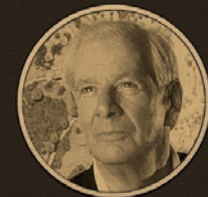
*John Ropes*



# PROPOSED MONUMENT AT RIVERWALK HISTORY DISTRICT



The Edward D. Stone Jr. Riverwalk Trail  
at  
Fort Lauderdale History District



Dedicated in memory of Edward D. Stone Jr., a trailblazer, visionary leader and internationally renowned Fort Lauderdale planner and landscape architect. Ed and his firm (EDSA) designed several high profile, public open space projects such as the Beachfront Revitalization and Riverwalk as catalysts in the City's ability to reach its illustrious goal of becoming the 'Best City of Its Size' in the United States.