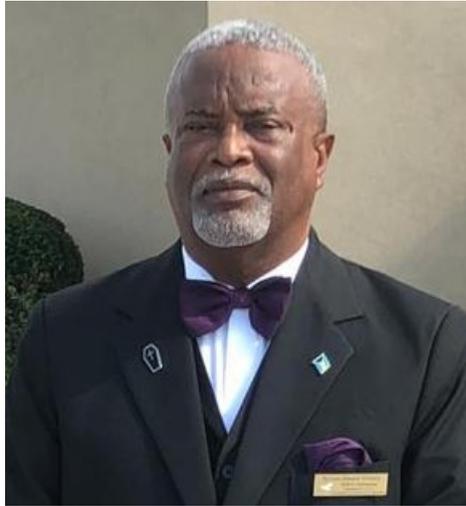


Keith A. McSweeney, Follow that Dream.....

*Restview Memorial Mortuary and Crematorium Limited
New Providence and Grand Bahama*

*You will never achieve your dreams if they do not become your goals
-Anonymous*



Keith A. McSweeney, L.F.D.&E.
President & CEO

A young lad, aged 11 years, growing up in Quintine Alley, Nassau, Bahamas had to find a means to earn “pocket money” and at the same time, take the first step along the path to fulfill his dream at that young age. He liked parades with music, but he had a fascination to become a mortician one day!

In January 1968, at the age of 11, he was hired by Mr. Raleigh Butler Sr., owner of Butler’s Funeral Home. His duties were not tending to the preparation of a deceased one, but rather he was started at the bottom of the rung on the ladder. His chores comprised cleaning the grounds, cleaning and maintenance of the funeral home building, cleaning the vehicles and assisting the Funeral Directors with various chores during funeral services at a church and in the cemetery.

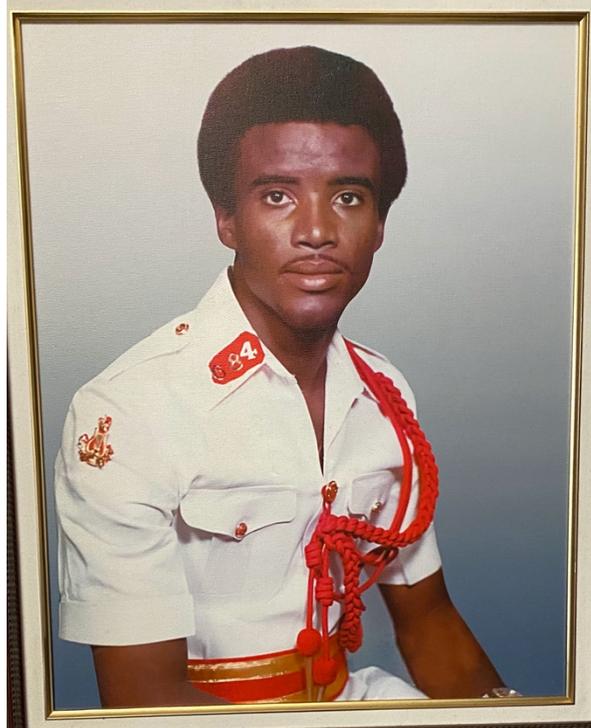
As Keith said “In those days, most funeral services were held on Sunday afternoons, they were walking processions with bands and then were called “Walking Funerals”. The first two

funerals he worked were Mr. Uriah McPhee and Mr. Basil “Bowtie/Basel” Saunders. A state funeral was held for Mr. Uriah McPhee, former Member of Parliament. His service was held at St. John’s Baptist Cathedral, Meeting Street on a Sunday afternoon and he was interred at the Western Cemetery. Later that same Sunday evening, Mr. Basil “Bowtie/Basel” Saunders was eulogized at St. Agnes Church and interred at St. Agnes Cemetery.

During the Easter and Summer holidays he worked seven (7) days and earned more for his labour. His earnings were \$10.00 a week and \$2.00 extra when he worked on Saturday and Sunday. He remained with Mr. Butler for two (2) years and was wooed later by the late Mr. Fealey Demeritte and encouraged by the late Paul Jenoure who was also previously employed with Butler’s Funeral Home and who had also moved onto Demeritte’s Funeral Home.

Keith’s desire to become a Mortician grew stronger when he began working at Demeritte’s under the tutelage of Messrs. Fealey Demeritte, Jack Davis and Paul Jenoure. He was able to carry out minimal duties in the embalming room by observing and assisting with selection and passing of instruments to the Mortician/Embalmers and becoming familiar by observing the process of embalming and preparing bodies. His tutoring also included the cleaning of all instruments and the preparation room.

Keith continued working with Demeritte’s until he completed his schooling at Aquinas Collage and enlisted in the Royal Bahamas Police Force. His initial posting was that of a Musician/Trombonist in the world renowned Police Band which was then under the Directorship of Mr. Dennis Morgan. He continued working part-time at Demeritte’s and in 1974 when Mr. Llewelyn Astwood returned to the Bahamas after completing his degree to become a Mortician overseas, he took Keith “under his wings”. It was at that time that Keith was formally introduced to the practical training of embalming. There he began his forward movement to achieve his lifelong ambition to qualify as a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer. He was still a Police Officer!



Keith McSweeney as a member of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band 1974

In 1978, Keith requested a transfer to another Police Division, he served a short stint in CID and when he got the opportunity to join the Police Traffic Department, he applied, was accepted and worked as a Traffic Motorcyclist for two (2) years.

Keith was finally on his way to seek admission to a U.S. based Mortuary College to study Mortuary Science. He applied and was accepted at Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science, Dallas, Texas. Through his own initiative and financial independence, he was able to complete his degree course and graduated with Honors in 1981 as a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer.

During the years that Keith was a student in Dallas, he gained valuable experience by working at Cedar Crest Funeral Home, Dallas, Texas and received professional on-the-job training under the guidance of Mr. Walter Wilson, then owner of the Cedar Crest Funeral Home, Dallas. Mr. McSweeney was so impressed with Mr. Wilson's operation that he sought and obtained his permission to use the similar name that became Cedar Crest Funeral Home, Nassau, Bahamas, which was opened on November 1, 1981 and from which he resigned on 25th October,

1993, to build and own his Funeral Home.

Keith and his wife, Yvette, opened their first Funeral Home in Nassau in November 1994 and a second business in Grand Bahama in February 1999. Both Funeral Homes are fully equipped with modern crematoriums and the McSweeney's credit architects Leo Ferguson for the design in Nassau and Donald Dean for the design in Grand Bahama. Mr. Jeremy Coleborn, a close family friend, is recognized for his valuable assistance in putting together the financial business plans for both investments, and credit is given to the former Canadian Imperial Bank for their start, and currently the Royal Bank of Canada for their assistance. Mr. Kingman Ingraham, Chartered Accountant, was also extremely helpful in their arrangements with the Royal Bank of Canada.



Restview has a compliment of fifteen (15) full time professional staff (New Providence and Grand Bahama) which comprised of eight (8) fully qualified Licensed Morticians namely Mr. Keith A. McSweeney class of 1981, Dallas, Texas; Mr. Kendal A. Higgins class of 1998, Atlanta, Georgia; Ms. Antonia M. Williams class of 2008, Miami, Dade; Mr. Rossneil R.H. Gibson class of 2012, Atlanta, Georgia.; Ms. Dnea Rox class of 2020, Dallas, Texas; and over fifty (50) part-time staff, which also includes Abaco and Eleuthera.

Special appreciation and recognition is extended to the faithful and hardworking part-time staff, florist, hairstylist and limousine drivers who continue to provide excellent service to Restview.



Kendal Higgins, L.F.D. & E. is the General Manager based in Nassau and oversees the day to day operations there.

Mr. Kendal A. Higgins is a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer with over 18 years experience. An accomplished Executive and respected leader, he's currently General Manager at Restview Memorial Mortuary & Crematorium Ltd, one of the country's leading Funeral Home.

While being afforded the opportunity to intern with Restview in January 1995, Mr. Higgins was exposed to all aspects of the business. He credits Mr. Stephen Johnson, Manager at Kemp's Funeral Home for piquing his interest in Mortuary Science. He then decided to pursue a degree in the field.

Mr. Higgins completed an Associate's Degree in 1998 from Gupton Jones Mortuary College in Atlanta, Georgia. Upon returning home, he continued employment with Restview as a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer.

Mr. Higgins has helped to build the highly motivated team focused on "Service with Excellent". He possesses excellent time management skills, takes pride in being well organized and is very thorough and meticulous. Additionally he's an effective communicator and excellent listener who is able to remain emotionally calm, so grieving family can rely on his emotional strength.

He is a member of East Street Gospel Chapel. Mr. Higgins is the proud son of Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt Higgins and is married to the beautiful Samantha Higgins.



Mr. Kendal A. Higgins, General Manager, L.F.D.& E.
Mr. Don Johnson, Accountant
Mr. Rossneil Gibson, L.F.D.& E.
Ms. Dnea Rox, L. F. D. & E.
Mr. Damien Fox, Public Relations Director
Mr. Patrick Minnis, F.D.& E.
Ms. Candice Darville, F. D. & E.
Mr. Antoine Coakley, F. D. & Embalmer's Asst.
Mr. Pedro Seymour, F. D.
Mr. Okell Solomon, F. D. & Administrative Ast.
Ms. Dudleyann Adderley, Office Administrator



Mr. Keith A. McSweeney, L.F.D. & E. President & CEO
Mrs. Antonia Williams-Neely, L. F.D. & E.
Mr. Demico Russell, F. D. & Manager (Eleuthera)
Ms. Renee Moss, Accountant
Ms. Bernadette Bartlett, Office Administrator
Mr. Reginald Dean Jr., F. D. & Embalmer's Asst.

Restview is most grateful and continue to say “thank you” to those fellow Funeral Home Owners who patronize our business Crematorium services and by their professional support in matters of mutual needs.

Thanks and recognition are also extended to the various private businesses, Government and Police Departments for the cooperation received over the years as the Funeral Homes do depend on their customer Service efficiency to make their jobs that much easier.

Keith, Kendal, and the entire Restview Family appreciate, with thanks, and the greatest of humility, the tremendous support and confidence shown by Bahamian families and in particular those families who are returned clients.

Restview also appreciates the families of visitors who have entrusted them to the care and transport of their deceased loved ones, worldwide. Restview remains committed to its Mission Statement ***“To provide consistent, sympathetic, caring and professional “SERVICE WITH EXCELLENCE” serving the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and worldwide with the highest level of consideration to the personal desires and financial comfort to our client families”.***

Keith and Yvette McSweeney are most grateful to the excellent, loyal, dedicated, committed and professional staff of Restview Memorial Mortuary and Crematorium and together, say “Thank You, We Appreciate You”.

Success is not measured by what a man accomplishes, but by the opposition he has encountered and the courage with which he has maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds.

-Charles Lindberg