



Bio: Albert Wilson Jr., born in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1934, had a remarkable career and made significant contributions in various fields. In 1954, he joined the US Air Force and became a ground-to-air communications technician, excelling in the installation, repair, and maintenance of top-secret military communications equipment worldwide. While serving in the military, Mr. Wilson's passion for music led him to become the coordinator for the Armed Forces Radio and TV Services worldwide in 1964. During this time, he also launched his own TV show called "America's Got Talent!" which was broadcast for a decade. Under his direction and production, talented service members were showcased in the studio and at live performances on military bases in Korea, Germany, Italy, Turkey, the Philippines, and Hollywood, California.



After 20 years of exemplary service and attaining the rank of Chief Master Sergeant, Mr. Wilson retired from the US Air Force in 1974. He then embarked on a successful career as a real estate developer and purchaser, specializing in both residential and commercial properties. In 1997, he founded Al & Associates Property Management and Services Incorporated, securing major government contracts for property management services with organizations such as the Federal Aviation Administration in Los Angeles and Palmdale,

California, Norton Air Force Base, Port Magu Naval Base, and the Federal Building in Los Angeles, California.



Rancho Arroyo - Bethany Slovic Missionary Church

One of Mr. Wilson's notable accomplishments was the construction of the impressive 150,000-square-foot "Rancho Arroyo Sports and Entertainment Complex" in California in 1978. This facility, which hosted renowned athletes like Olympic gold medalist Mark Spitz and Debbie Allen, became a premier destination for sports events, weddings, concerts, and other special occasions for over 15 years. Esteemed entertainers and celebrities, including Dennis Edwards and The Temptations, Bobby Brown, Celia Cruz, and Muhammad Ali, performed at the venue, earning a total of seven Olympic gold medals for Mr. Wilson and his partner.



Ali, Muhammad Ali and wife Charlotte

In the 1990s, several military bases in and around Sacramento were closed, resulting in significant economic impacts on the region, including job losses and changes in land use. Mr. Wilson sold Rancho Arroyo to the Ukrainian community. The facility, now known as the Bethany Slavic Missionary Church, stands as the largest Ukrainian church in the world. Ali's blueprints were used to construct a sister church in Ukraine, further extending his legacy.



The facility has hosted notable events such as the Tuskegee Airmen gathering, advocacy efforts for veterans' rights and homelessness, and PHIERS.org initiatives. These collective endeavors, affectionately referred to as "Mo Betta Vets" and VHIERS, are dedicated to ensuring healthcare access for all veterans while fighting for veterans' rights globally.



Al, Charlotte, and Coretta Scott King

Due to his business success and leadership skills, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Mr. Wilson as the chairman of the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday task force in 1982. He worked closely with Ms. Coretta Scott King to generate support throughout California for the official recognition of Dr. King's birthday as a state holiday. Mr. Wilson's efforts paid off, and in 1984, California became one of the first states in the US to officially observe January 15th as a statewide holiday. Eventually, in 1986, it became a federal holiday after being signed into law by President Ronald Reagan, largely due to Al's tireless advocacy.



Mr. Wilson's influence extends beyond his career accomplishments. He continues to contribute to numerous industries and businesses that prioritize social benefits to society. He proudly supports organizations such as the Veterans Health Insurance Endowment and Referral Service (VHIERS), the Tuskegee Airmen, and PHIERS.org. Additionally, he has established the Al Wilson Family Foundation, leaving a lasting legacy for generations to come.



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