

Community Mourns Homeless Advocate

Kay Vives, Advocate for the people is sorely missed

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Assistant Editor

The Piedmont is quietly mourning the death of its most outspoken advocate for homeless people. Activist Kay Vives, 55, died Oct. 16 at her sister's home in Charlotte. As a Legal Aid Society receptionist for 15 years, Vives regularly came in contact with the city's voiceless, and soon became the city's most outspoken advocate for the homeless. She was a regular at city hall, often taking the podium to remind bureaucrats that men, women and children were sleeping on street corners and crowding the city's meager emergency shelter facilities.

The community will long mourn the woman who is described by those who knew her as "a tireless warrior for the underdog...the moving force of the homeless movement in the city...not just a foot soldier, but a major general for those who are without power."

Last week a memorial service for Vives was held at the Bethesda Center for the Homeless. She was buried in Charlotte.

Hazel Mack, a Legal Aid attorney who worked with her, remembered the first time she met Vives.

"We met across a fence. I was 18, and she was in the women's prison in Raleigh. They (prisoners) had been demonstrating against conditions inside, and people came from all over the state to demonstrate in support of them. She had a rough and turbulent beginning. But all of that helped her never to forget," Mack said.

In the Legal Aid office and in the community, Vives frequently searched for ways to remedy the problems of the homeless.

"She looked out for the little things," Mack said. "She encouraged us to start a fund at the front desk for people who didn't have bus money. When a client died and had no money, she came up with an idea for helping to pay for that, and we began to help with funerals."

Frank McKissick, a C.P.A. and friend to Vives, noted that her concern for the plight of others was endless.



"She did a lot people never knew about," said McKissick. "She was always out there working for the homeless, skipping meals and missing sleep."

Christine Harper-Fahey first met Vives in 1989 in Washington, D.C. when she was with the National Low Income Coalition. It called upon Vives to help organize the march to alert Congress to the plight of the nation's poor. It was one of many events that found Vives at the forefront.

"She was important as a voice," Harper-Fahey said, "truly committed to the needs of the homeless. She spread her message to all kinds of people."

Some worry that Vives left mighty big shoes to fill. But Harper-Fahey has an optimistic view.

"I think there's going to be a hole (left by her absence), but I think she set the stage for those holes to be filled," she says. "It's a matter of people she inspired coming up to the table and carrying on her message."

Vives' family expressed the same sentiment in the memorial program distributed at her funeral.

"Kay cannot be replaced but it is our prayer that someone with Kay's open-hearted sharing and generosity will come forward to continue her strong voice for the homeless and to challenge the powerful and complacent to face the reality of homelessness."

"Our Dear Colleague and Friend, Kay Vives, died at 1:00 a.m., October 16, 1992, at her sister's home in Charlotte, North Carolina. As we all know, Kay lived to help others. She was a tireless warrior for the underdog. Kay was the moving force for the establishment of the homeless movement in Winston-Salem in recent years. This was just one of the many efforts she spearheaded over the years. Kay served as our receptionist for over 15 years. We will miss her."

The Staff of Legal Aid

Why Mel Watt?



"Mel Watt - The New Breed We Need...it's time to elect more Mel Watts, i.e. those who put public service ahead of personal glory." - The Charlotte Post

"...Senator Watt...lays down a challenge to seek unity out of diversity for the good of the state as a whole." - The Winston-Salem Journal

"North Carolina needs the leadership of more men and women like Senator Watt." - The Charlotte Observer

"He's got...the compassion and sense of fairness to make a difference." - The Independent

Mel Watt Will Fight For:

- affordable and accessible health care
- increased support for Education and Headstart
- worker training for the jobs of tomorrow
- community based solutions to crime and drugs

"Few people are as committed to making a difference as Mel Watt. He would certainly be the breath of fresh air that many think our Congress needs."

— Harvey Gantt

From the New 12th, Let's Give 'em Mel.

Paid for by the Melvin Watt for Congress Campaign Committee.

On November 3rd, vote Democratic.

These Community Leaders Have Compared The Qualifications Of The Candidates For District Court Judge. That's Why They Support The Re-Election Of Judge Loretta Biggs.

- James W. Armentrout, Jr.
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- Martha Albertson
- Pat and Jim Antoni
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- Richard G. Badgett
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- Zanne Baker
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- Richard Barnett
- Zeb Barnhardt
- Jimmy Barnhill
- Annette Beatty
- Jim & Toy Beaty, Jr.
- Clifton Bell, Jr.
- Alan Bennett
- Bert Bennett
- Graham Bennett
- Richard Bennett
- Betsy Bethune
- Corette Bigalow
- Ellen Bonnette
- Yvonne and Billy Booker
- Ed Brewer
- Genevieve Braybrou
- Audrey Brown
- Dwayne Brown
- Jasper Brown
- Norma Brown
- Don Buie
- Todd Burke
- Lynn Burleson
- Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Burns
- Judith Burns
- Larry and Diane Butler
- Errol Cahoon
- Leonard and Anna Caldwell
- Lisa Caldwell
- Mary Calin
- Karen Estelle Carey
- Clyde Cash
- Sandra Chadwick
- R.J. and Yetta Clarke
- Dr. Thomas Clarke
- George and Alice Cleland
- George & Elizabeth Cleland
- John Cleland
- George & Melissa Cleland
- Keith Clinard
- Judy Cline
- Peggy Cochran
- Bill Cofer
- Buddy Collins
- Tom Comerford
- Mary Alice and Fred Conrad
- Anne Connolly
- Sharon Correll
- Carol Corum
- David Cotterill
- Joan Cotterill
- Butch Covington
- Alan Cox
- Ellen Cox
- Betty Crockett
- Charles Crockett
- Fred Crumpler
- Luellen Curry
- Carol Davis
- Glenn Davis
- Greg and Stephanie Davis
- John and Terri Davis, III
- Joslin Davis
- Linwood Davis
- Clay Dawson
- Patricia Dean

- Dave DeRamus
- Shirley Eaton
- John and Betty Earle
- Robert Elliot
- Joan & Tom Ellis
- Marcia and Jerry Epstein
- Pat Etheridge
- Larry Eubanks
- Libba Evans
- Fredrick Evans
- Yvette Evans
- Danny Ferguson
- Lawrence Fine
- Jack and Martha Flier
- Fred Flynt
- Forsyth Co. Women Attys.**
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- Rhonda Frazier
- Bill Freeman
- David and Libby Freedman
- Billy and Dunza Friende
- Leesha Fuller
- Lynne Fuller
- Jim Gallaher
- Sterling Garris
- Joe Gatto
- Ellen Gelbin
- Pansy Glanton
- Vickie Goldstein
- Nick Gordon
- Susan Gottsegen
- Anthony Grace
- Mr. & Mrs. James R. Grace, III
- Mike Grace
- Martha Gragg
- Michael Gray
- Susan Gray
- Murray Greason
- Catherine Green
- Betty Gregg
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- Earl and Ann Guill
- Marcus and Sally Gulley
- Michael Gunter
- John W. Hairston Family
- Bill and Susan Hammond
- Kelley Hancock
- F. Borden Hanes, Jr.
- Redge Hanes

Republican Attorneys & Former District Court Judges Support Democratic Judge Loretta Biggs

- Edward Y. Brewer, Clemmons
- Fred P. Flynt, III, Lewisville
- Robert K. Leonard, former Judge
- A. Lincoln Sherk, former Judge
- David R. Tanis, former Judge
- A.L. Collins, Kernersville
- Joseph J. Gatto, former Judge
- Larry G. Reavis, Winston-Salem
- Gary B. Tash, former Judge
- John G. Wolfe, III, Kernersville

"Believing that the selection of Judges should not be part of the partisan political process, and also believing that a Judge doing a good job deserves to be retained on the bench regardless of political affiliation, we urge voters of both political parties to support the re-election of **Democratic Judge Loretta C. Biggs to the Forsyth County District Court.**"

- Carolyn and Larry Hardy
- Mary Hargraves
- Jim & Marie Harrill
- Lindy Harris
- Fred Harwell
- Roland and Barbara Hayes
- Hada V. Haulsee
- Gary Henderson
- Buddy and Susan Herring
- Elizabeth & Harold Holmes
- Mabel Holton
- Walter and Lynne Holton
- Marjorie Hoots
- Ann Hopkins
- Larry and Beth Hopkins
- Loma Hopkins
- Mike Horn
- David Hough and Judy Knoll
- Charles T. Hughes II
- Ed and Myrna Hughes
- Jean and Ed Irvin
- Gary Jackson
- Jane Jackson
- Anthony Jenkins

- Mary Jenkins
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- Carl E. & Marsha Johnson
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- Gwendolyn Jones
- Kason and Ann Keiger
- Warren Kasper
- Annie Brown Kennedy
- Charlie Kennedy
- Harold Kennedy, Jr.
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- Harvey Kennedy
- Lynne Klauer
- Elen Knott
- Clarence Lamb
- James T. Lambie
- Bob Lauer
- Patsy Law
- Robert and Emelda Lawing
- Victor Lefkowitz
- Robert Leonard
- Bruce Levin

- Lois Levin
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- Delois Lindey
- Inez Linville
- Larry Little
- David Logan
- Skip Long
- Hazel Mack
- Joan Malcolm
- Rachel Malcolm
- Bill Maready
- Raymond Marshall
- Ed and Miriam McCarter
- Arise P. McKinney
- Ron McManus
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- Doug Meis
- Katherine Kerr Memory
- Dr. John Mendez
- Lisa Menefee
- Kate Mewhinney
- L. Howard Mielle
- Gordon Miller

- Ward and Vicki Miller
- Beverly Mitchell
- Eddie Mitchell
- Stan Mitchell
- L. Holmer Moeller
- Gwendolyn C. Montgomery
- Mary Montgomery
- Griffin Morgan
- Roger Moringo
- Nancy Mundorf
- D. Hector McEachern
- Peggy Neal
- Joe and Joyce Neely
- NC Assn. of Women Attys.**
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- Sylvia I. Oberle
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- Mildred Paden
- Ed Parker
- Wilson Parker
- Carl and Ann Parrish
- Ora Lee Payne
- Wayne and Judy Peabody
- John M. Perkins
- Robert Pierce
- Alton Pollard
- Alan Powell
- Donna Rader
- Rebekah Randolph
- Michael E. Ray
- Mary Rearden
- Suzanne Reynolds

- Rick Rice
- George and Anne Rigby
- Bobby Robinson
- John Royal
- Ben and Avon Ruffin
- Mike Robinson
- Dean Rutledge
- Luli Sanderford
- Penn Sandridge
- Arch Scales
- Margaret Scales
- Wendell Schollander
- Meyressa Schoonmaker
- Phillip Searcy
- Keith and Peggy Sharpe
- Paul Shepard
- Thomas and Joetta Shepherd
- Lincoln Sherk
- Pat Shore
- David and Donna Shores
- Paul Sinal
- Andrea Gay Sisk
- David Smith
- Sterling and Beverly Spainhour
- L.E. Speas
- Kurt Stakeman
- Esther Solomon
- Kurt Stakeman
- Nancy Streblow
- David Tanis
- Gary Tash
- James W. Tatum
- John N. Taylor, Jr.
- Ray Thomas
- Renita Thompkins
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- Sandra Tony
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- Len Tucker
- Carol Vogler
- David Wagner
- Anthony Wallace
- Dr. Ralph Wall
- Reba Hayes Warren
- Dr. Jonathan Weston
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- Ken Zick

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DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
Tough/Fair/Experienced
DEMOCRAT

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Judge Biggs. Jim Armentrout, Treasurer