



**Summary for**

**KAYE STEVENS** OF MARGATE

# BRIEF

Kaye Stevens (July, 1932 - December, 2011) was a singer, actress, performer and comedienne who had homes in Margate for more than forty years. In a career remarkable for its range, she performed with Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and others as a part of the Rat Pack. She also sang solo at top clubs of the 1960 through 1970s, including Caesar's Palace and the Persian Room in New York City.

# ENTERTAINER

She appeared in six movies, earning a Golden Globe nomination for her role in the comedy “The New Interns.” She was a cast member of the daytime drama “Days of Our Lives” for nine years. Several engagements with top entertainment shows on television such as The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, Bob Hope Show, Frank Sinatra Show, Sammy Davis Jr. Show, the Temptations Show, the Judy Garland Experience and others, also added to her artistic fame.

# ENTERTAINER *CONTINUED*

Ms. Stevens was a regular in several popular game shows of the 1970s and often pitched or saluted the city of Margate, Florida (her home) when cameras were focused on her. Throughout her career, she produced many singing albums including jazz, contemporary, club music and in her later years, gospel and inspirational genres.



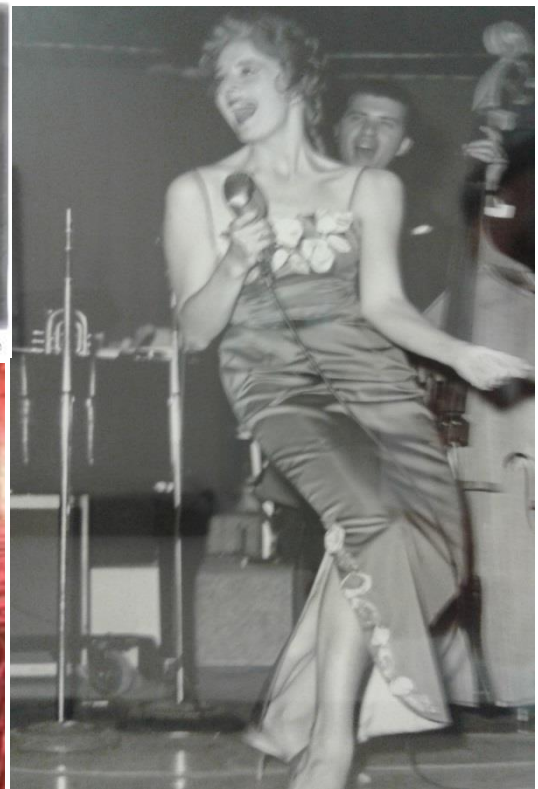
★ **KAYE STEVENS**  
Starring in:  
"Bob Hope...and me" ★

*'Thanks For The Memories'*

★ A Tribute to all Veterans  
...In Songs, Stories & Video  
TUESDAY JULY 21, 2009  
7:00P.M.  
Church on the Square  
The Villages FL



Kaye Stevens & Bob Hope



**Kaye Stevens**  
The Grass Will Sing For You

THE COWSILLS  
**KAYE STEVENS**

Wayne Cochran  
Jackie Gayle

Flamingo HOTEL  
Casino Theatre

FOR RESERVATIONS PHONE 735-5046



# COMMUNITY & CIVIC IMPACT

Ms. Stevens had a large heart and steadfast loyalty to the less fortunate throughout her life. During the Vietnam War, she performed on many tours with Bob Hope as part of his USO troupe in dangerous war zones. She raised funds to build St. Vincent's Catholic Church in Margate and was a life-long advocate for veteran's rights.

# COMMUNITY & CIVIC IMPACT *CONTINUED*

She was civically orientated and participated in many municipal-related and fundraising events. Her work and support of the city of Margate earned her the moniker of the “*First Lady of Margate.*”

# CIVIC IMPACTS



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# MARGATE LIFE

Ms. Stevens retreated to Margate in the early 1960s where she found anonymity and peace from her entertainment life. In Margate she first lived in a small concrete block, jalousie windowed home on East River Drive, approximately one block from State Road 7.

## MARGATE LIFE *CONTINUED*

She later purchased a larger lake-front residence just west of downtown Margate, where she entertained many well-known celebrities of the day. She was highly admired and loved not only by her neighbors but by the surrounding community as well as the City of Margate.

# MARGATE LIFE



# MARGATE LIFE

In 1972, a lakefront park on Royal Palm Road (i.e., Copans Rd.), a short distance north of her first home, was named after her. Ms. Stevens continued to be active in Margate until 2004 when she moved to Central Florida. She passed away in 2011 and was interred at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery (North Lauderdale). In her memory, the city rededicated, improved and commissioned a bronze statue for Kaye Stevens Park in 2014.

# MEMORIALS



# STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kaye Stevens' original first home in Margate serves as a tangible reminder of the residence and impact Ms. Stevens had in the community she chose to live in. The site is significant to Margate and the County at large, as an example of a typical "Minimal Traditional" Mid Century period construction and by association with Ms. Stevens, a person of both local and national recognition who contributed to local and national causes.

# OBJECTIVES OF RECOGNITION

1. Provide for historic designation recognition, economic benefits and protection to a property or properties associated with a person of significance to the local community, county, state or nation.
2. To assist the local municipality by recognition of its historic assets.
3. To support local history, historical continuity, awareness and pride.
4. To provide professional guidance as needed, with regards to future changes or modifications to the subject property.

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on research of the subject and her long association with the City of Margate, decades as a notable entertainer, and many years of support for civic cause, staff recommends:

That “*Kaye Stevens House (House No.1)*” be recognized as a Historic Resource Site by recommendation of the Historic Preservation Board to the Broward County Board of Commissioners.