

## "Martin, Thanks for Keeping the Dream Alive for All Mankind" MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL LUNCHEON

October 22, 1988 Anderson, Indiana

N	MUSICAL INTERLUDE
Mistress of Ceremonies	Gay Terry, Funding Committee
Invocation	Father Dennis Goth, St. Mary's Catholic Church
Solo	Janiece Lewis
The Occasion & Recognition of Guests	
Remarks (3 minutes each)	J. Mark Lawler, Mayor, City of Anderson
Material Control of the Control of t	LUNCH
Solo	•
Remarks	Thomas R. McMahan, Former Mayor, City of Anderson
Remarks	Will J. Carter, President, Carter Industries
Remarks	Rev. Wayne Redding, Chairman, Site Committee
Remarks	Rev. J.T. Menifee, Chairman, Board of Directors
Remarks - Special Guest	Martin Luther King, III, Fulton County Commissioner, Atlanta, Georgia
Announcements	Gay Terry
Benediction	Elder Hosea Barnes, Christ Temple Apostolic Church
Luncheon Chairpersons	Darlene McGough
10 (2014) 1 (10012) 2013 (2014) 1 (10012) 2013 (2014) 1 (10012) 2013 (2014) 1 (10012)	Jessica P. Woodall
	Faye Johnson
Hostesses	Evelyn W. Armstrong
PI	ROGRAM COMMITTEE
Odail Thorns, Jr General Cha	irman Evelyn W. Armstrong Hostesses
Darlene F. McGough	Fredonia HarrisBanner
Faye Johnson Luncheon C	haimarcan
Jessica Woodall	Attor Edwards
Lester Harris Layout Engi	neer Henrietta Wilkins
Walt Terry Layout Engi	
Milton B. Russell Layout Engi	neer Ben Floyd
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Milton B. Russell	Ben Floyd Flouvenir Book Flow Milton Beach Public Relations Flow Sales Flow Milton Beach Souvenir Book Consultant Flow Milton Beach Official Photographer  EMORIAL COMMISSION STATUE UNVEILING Flow Rev. 22, 1988 2:00 p.m.  Richard Henderson - Community Choir Rev. Atticus T. Taylor, Pastor, Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church Flow Odail Thorns, Jr., Chairman, Funding Committee  Community Choir Flow Redding, Chairman, Site Committee Rev. Wayne Redding, Chairman, Site Committee Rev. J.T. Menifee, Board Chairman J. Mark Lawler, Mayor, City of Anderson Honorable William Crawford, State Representative Dr. Robert Nicholson, President, Anderson University Thomas R. McMahan, Former Mayor, City of Anderson Community Choir Gay Terry Rev. Edward Foggs, Chairman, Executive Council, Church of God Martin Luther King, III Community Choir Rev. Ray Wright
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### PROJECT HISTORY

In 1985, a survey and analysis of the City of Anderson was conducted by a consulting group, the Regional Urban Design Assistance Team, better known by the Acronym Rudat Team. The Rudat Team published its findings and recommendations for the improvement of the city in the Rudat Study in 1985.

The City Administration began to explore ways to implement some of the recommendations of the Rudat Team. A White River Commission was formed as a result of the study and applied for a federal grant from the environmental agency to fund improvements along the river corridor. This came to fruition.

On January 7, 1986, at a meeting of the Concerned Citizens Coalition, then headed by Mr. Mack Reese, Mayor Thomas McMahan presented his 1986 "State of the City" Address, outlining his goals and objectives for continued improvement of the city. He also explained the 3.5 million dollar federal grant for the White River Development Project.

Reverend James T. Menifee, pastor of the Greater Anderson Zion Baptist Church stated at the meeting his desire to see the city administration allocate funds for beautifying the city's west side. He suggested the city provide funds to accomplish this goal. Further, he stated, "We should have something we could be proud of in our neighborhood since the black community is not along the river and do not qualify for funding from the grant."

Mayor McMahan responded to the request by inviting the ministers to meet with him to further discuss their concerns. The initial group meeting with the mayor were Reverends James T. Menifee, Ray Wright, John Anderson, Samuel King and Messrs. James Abraham, Mack Reese and Charles Gardner. This group agreed to invite all ministers from the west side to the next meeting to secure their input and support. After many subsequent meetings the group decided to become a committee and formed the following objectives:

- 1. List projects which would enhance the west side
- 2. Solicit community support
- 3. Identify financial resources for suggested improvements

The committee discovered there was \$60,000 in block grant funds available for community development. These funds could be used for community based projects but could not be used for items such as residential repairs, businesses, etc. The committee determined the most effective long range use of the funds could be realized in the developing of a lasting memorial on the west side. Thus, the concept of a memorial in honor of the Great American, Martin Luther King, Jr. was conceived. The statue was to be erected through the use of private sector funds raised by the committee. The committee then took

on the name The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Committee.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee was an ecumenical committee, composed of ministers from most denominations from the city's west side. The committee worked together with a strong sense of common purpose never witnessed in the history of the city. The committee's action clearly demonstrated that brethren of all faiths' can unify themselves and work toward common objectives for the benefit of all mankind. The following sub-committees were then formed: Site Development — Rev. Wayne Redding, Chairman; Mr. Lester Harris; Mr. Milton Russell: Rev. Edward Foggs: Rev. Hosea Barnes and Rev. Jack Scott. Funding Committee — Odail Thorns, Jr., Chairman; James C. Bradley, Vice-Chairman; Faye Johnson, Secretary; Adolphus Hicks, Treasurer; Rev. Edward Foggs; Katherine May; Gay Terry; Rev. Wayne Redding: Terry Taylor: Freddie Thurman: James L. Warner; Jessie Woodall and Rev. Ray Wright. Public Relations — Rev. Jack Scott, Chairman; Don Volk; Sandy Volk; Atticus Taylor and Rev. Roosevelt Boyd. Clean-up Project — Rev. Ray Wright, Rev. Shellie Ford, Rev. Chester Herring and Rev. Roosevelt Boyd.

Chief Counsel — Attorney Irma Hampton Nave.

With the organization in place, Mayor McMahan appointed Mr. Dennis Newburn as our consultant from the city. The site was donated by Local Businessman. Mr. Will J. Carter of Carter & Carter Industries. The park development began to progress. The idea whose time had come was becoming a reality. The question then became what should we build as a monument. Some suggested a bust of Dr. King, surely we could do better. A small statue, surely we could do better. It came down to money and a vision. The funding committee headed by Odail Thorns, Jr. set a target of raising \$75,000 in a 3 month period. This amount would fund a 6-8 foot statue and base. The drive was launched in August at Wallace Temple AME Zion Church with Ms. Gay Terry as Mistress of Ceremonies. At this historic occasion, more than \$30,000 was pledged. The effort picked up momentum and was culminated in February, 1988, with a fantastic, sold out, awards dinner with more than \$80,000 committed to the project.

The simple fact is the citizens of Anderson, black and white, Jews and Christians came through because it was an idea whose time had come. Our sincere gratitude goes out to our contributors for making this dream a reality.

We gratefully acknowledge the untiring assistance of Mayor Thomas McMahan for his support, Mr. Will J. Carter for his donation of the land, Mr. Dennis Newburn for his support, Mr. James Abraham for his persistence and the inspirational leadership provided by our Chairman, the Reverend James T. Menifee.

Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968
Baptist Minister
Leader Extraordinaire
Nobel Laureate

"Well, I don't know what will happen now," he said characteristically—and prophetically—in his last address in Memphis. "But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop—I may not get to the Promised Land with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will."

In an inexorable commitment to non-violence as a strategy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led his people to the Mountain of Hope where equal justice in its elusive character still lingers as a goal. He began an odyssey, a long journey involving awakening the consciences of the American People. The detractors to his strategy were many, those who sought violence and aggressive behavior as key strategies, yet he persisted. As he envisioned a nation of brothers working together in peace, he inundated the nation with messages through his powerful rhetoric exhorting America toward freedom for black citizens.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1926, he came from a family steeped in the tradition of the southern negro ministry: both his father and grandfather were Baptist Preachers. Always the brilliant scholar, he entered Morehouse College at age 15. Although interested in medicine as his first ambition this ambition was eclipsed by his father's urging him to enter the ministry. He later completed study at Crozier Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania where he was elected President of the Student Body and graduated with the highest academic average in his class. It was here that he first became acquainted with the principle of non-violent resistance as demonstrated by Mahatma Ghandi of India. His formal education was completed with his earning a Ph.D. in 1955 from Boston University.

In spite of his prowess as a Theologian and as a leading edge intellectual in Religious Thought, his destiny was rooted in leading the struggle. On the historic date, December 1, 1955, Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to surrender her bus seat to a white passenger and was arrested. The Montgomery Improvement Association was formed with Dr. King as its leader. Thus, began his odyssey. With a success in Montgomery, Dr. King using his skillful rhetoric

and his inspiring personality organized the masses in the south to take on the vicious racism which plagued their lives.

With his organization of the southern Christian Leadership Conference, a base of operation was established. Here his national platform was launched.

Whether the city was Birmingham, Selma, Albany, Montgomery or Chicago the egalitarian principles stood forth. Blacks must be equal. Segregation had to end and it must end through the strategic use of masses involved in non-violent protest. The historic march on Washington in 1963 awakened the conscience of a nation. Barriers fell, the chain of segregation was broken and equal opportunity became law with the passage of the 1964 civil rights bill.

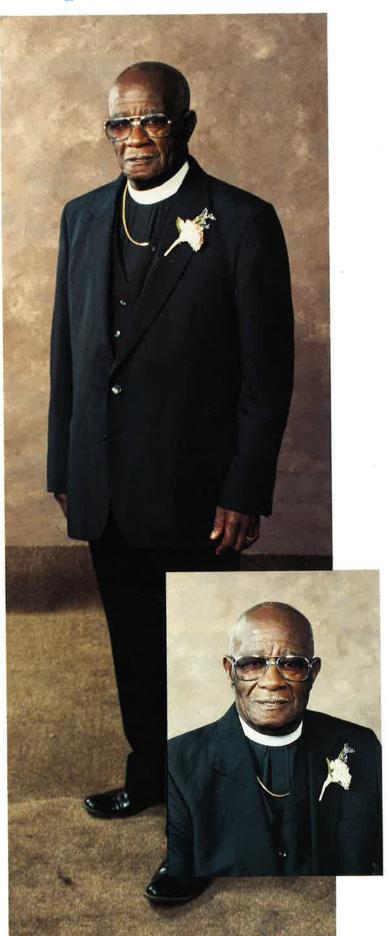
Though he became a Nobel Laureate, he never sought the recognition that deservedly came. His fulfillment came in the gradual manifestation of his dream for black Americans to be free at last! Stricken down by the assassin's bullet in Memphis at the early age of 39, his legacy lives on as we continue the pursuit of the dream.

In Anderson, in the year 1988, we dedicate a memorial. There is no ostensible effort here to say we are totally free. We dedicate this Monument as a symbol of hope from those things to come, bound in a vision where we can live together as brothers, one Nation under God with Liberty and Justice for all. Dr. King gave his life for this cause. This Monument is a demonstration of our faith in the future and our commitment to make his dream a reality.

Odail Thorns, Jr.



## Greetings from the Chairman



Dear Friends:

We are grateful for the blessings of the Almighty God who has allowed us to reach this great milestone. With his blessings, we are able to recognize the achievements of a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I trust we will continue to remember Dr. King for what he stood for, the brotherhood of all mankind. This fitting Memorial recognizes his achievements, but equally important it symbolizes in a profound sense the road ahead in making Dr. King's dream a reality.

I am thankful for the outstanding work done by the Board of the Memorial commission and the many volunteers who have made this great Memorial possible. I owe a great deal of thanks to Mayor Tom McMahan who helped us in the early stages of the project and provided the resources of the city as we worked.

Let us remember what we have achieved here together as brothers and sisters. Let this effort be the dawning of a new day of togetherness for the good of all Anderson.

Again, thanks to you all.

May God Bless You,

Rev J. Tyrenife

Rev. J.T. Menifee Chairman

## A Message from the Funding Chairman

Dear Fellow Citizens:

In behalf of the Funding Committee, I thank all of you for your support in making the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial a reality. Your support has come in many ways and through many vehicles. Some offered their prayers and words of encouragement at every opportunity. Many friends volunteered their time in helping us with mailings, arranging meetings, and assisting with our excellent Awards Banquet. An overwhelming number came forth with cash contributions which helped us top our goal of \$75,000. This far exceeded my fondest hopes. The love, kindness and fellowship I experienced in managing this great opportunity will never be forgotten.

Rev. James T. Menifee, a man we all respect, played a special part in keeping me motivated during the difficult times of the drive. He helped me to run the course and keep the faith. Rev. Menifee led and Rev. Ray Wright was always there providing support. Rev. Wayne Redding deserves special thanks for being at my side throughout.

I was blessed with an outstanding committee and supported by fellow Delco Remy employes. Together, they made this effort an experience of a lifetime.

The struggle continues for us as black Americans. It is my hope that one day we are recognized as equal Americans. We must be ever persistent in pursuit of the freedom and respect other Americans take for granted. It is my fondest hope that this Memorial will serve as a symbol of our potential to share as Andersonians, black and white. My dream is that we let it be our cornerstone of brotherhood.

Again, my thanks to all of you for allowing me to share in a great part of Anderson's history.

Sincerely.

Odail Thorns, Jr. Funding Chairman



#### Dear Friends,

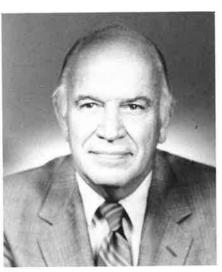
The dedication of the Memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a special day for Anderson. More than an event, it is a milestone in the community's efforts to broaden the base of understanding of Dr. King's non-violent struggle for racial equality.

By 1980, Anderson had made only limited progress against racial discrimination and segregation. It was a walk...not a march! Support began to swell, Dr. King's birthday celebration spread among Anderson churches, community schools became involved, and Black History Month took on a new meaning. The City of Anderson recognized officially Dr. King's birthday a full year before its State and Federal counterparts.

The Memorial has evolved through a series of activities. A strategic location, at a gateway to our City, was selected and the property donated by Will Carter, Jr.

A park-like setting was created through Anderson Community Development funds. Money for the statue was raised from large and small donations bridging a cross-section of businesses, churches, organizations and individuals. A local sculptor was commissioned.

This occasion makes me proud of my community and the great people who make it home. We have all benefited.



Sincerely,

Thomas R. McMahan Mayor, 1979-1987

Thomas R. M. Mahan



### Greetings,

I want to welcome each of you to this very special dedication ceremony. The Martin Luther King Memorial is a symbol for all of us. It is a symbol of our respect for Dr. King and our determination that he be remembered and that his "dream" someday be fully realized. It is a symbol of hope, as he symbolized hope, for so many of us. It is a symbol of unity, and what can be accomplished when we work together toward a common goal.

I want to thank the many dedicated volunteers who worked so hard to ensure that this memorial and this day would, indeed, be realized.

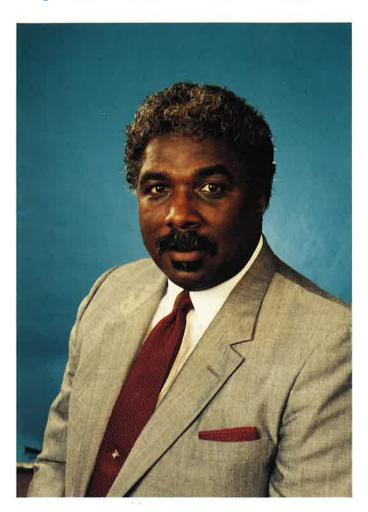
Let us all continue working together, toward our future goals, in the spirit of kindness and peace that Dr. King instilled in us all.

Sincerely,

J. Mark Lawler Mayor, 1987-Present

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## A Special Thanks to Carter Industrial Services, Inc.



Mr. Will J. Carter is an entrepreneur, a local businessman who is President and General Manager of Carter Industrial Services, Inc. Mr. Carter has demonstrated remarkable persistence in pursuit of his goals as a businessman. With his untiring efforts and devotion to achievement he has developed successful enterprises which demonstrate we can succeed in spite of great odds.

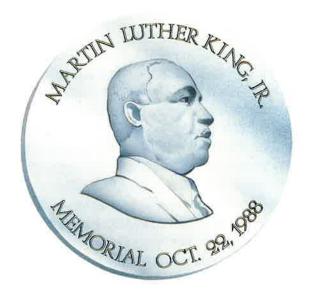
He provided the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission with one of its key resources, land. He donated in an unselfish manner the property used to build this Memorial Park. He overcame many obstacles in order to make this significant contribution. The entire city is grateful to Will for his efforts.

Not only has he donated property, but his enterprises have made the largest single corporate gift to the project in the form of cash. He conducted his own personal fundraising project. In many practical ways, the resources of Carter Industrial Service, Inc. have been at the ready disposal of the Commission. Mr. Carter emphatically commits his enterprise as ready to continue his services in whatever manner required.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission is eternally grateful for the assistance of Mr. Carter and his contribution to making the dream a reality.

Rev. J.T. Menifee Chairman









## \$5000 CONTRIBUTORS

Platinum Award

Carter Industries

Delco Remy Division

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# \$1000 CONTRIBUTORS Gold Award

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# \$500 CONTRIBUTORS Silver Award

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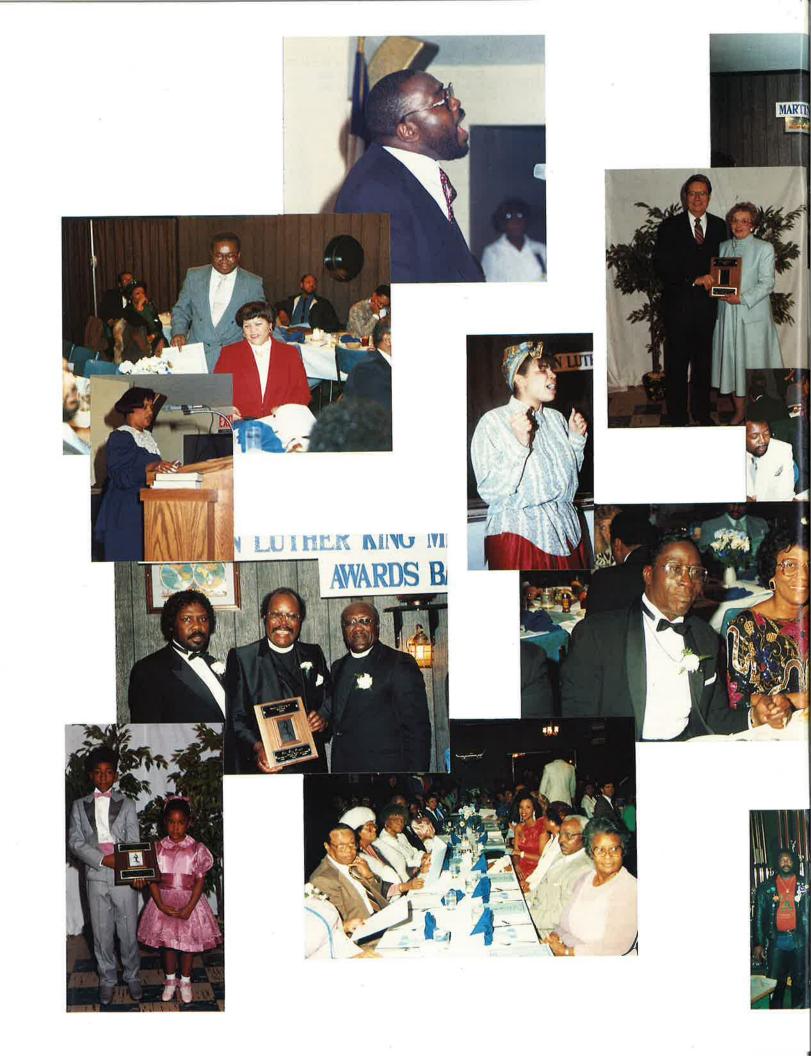
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## City Counsultant

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## Site Committee

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Mr. Lester Harris, Engineering Consultant

Mr. Milton Russell, Engineering Consultant

Rev. Edward Foggs

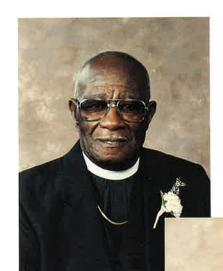
Rev. Hosea Barnes

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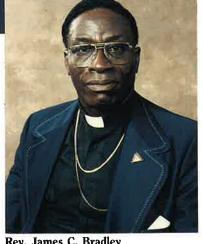


Rev. James T. Menifee Chairman



Mr. Odail Thorns, Jr. Chairman - Funding & Contract Administrator

Rev. Roosevelt Boyd



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Mr. James Abraham



Rev. Wayne Redding Chairman Site Development



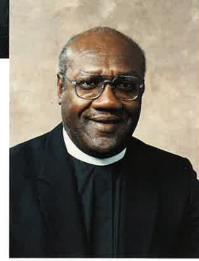
Mr. Lester Harris



Mr. Dennis Newburn



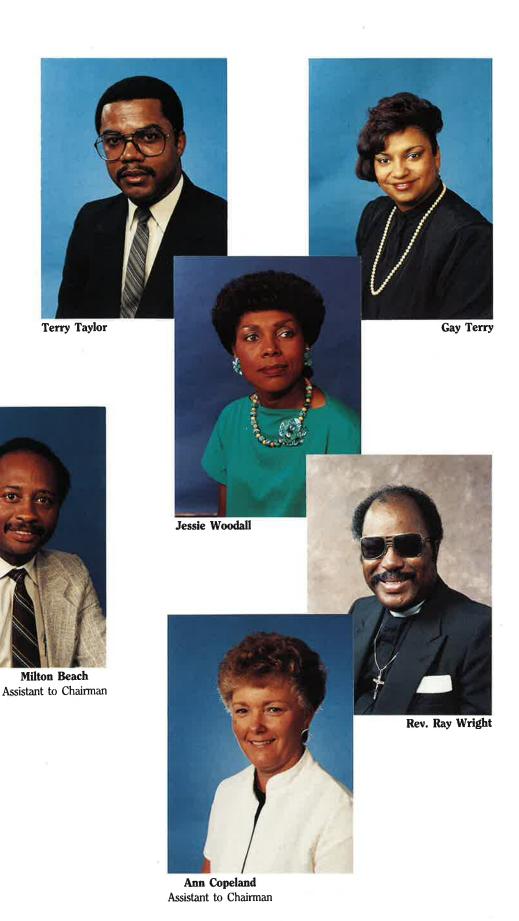
Rev. Atticus Taylor



Rev. Hosea Barnes

## **Funding Committee**

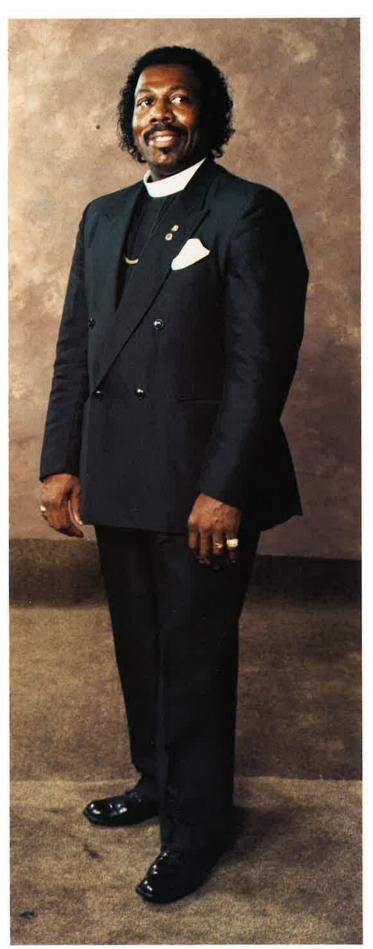




Kara Burns Assistant to Chairman

Rev. Freddie Thurman

## A Message from the Site Committee Chairman



As we witness the unveiling of the statue of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I am reminded of the great marches and peaceful demonstrations he led in effort to awaken the consciousness of America and the world toward racial, social, and economical injustice. Dr. King's message of world peace and non-violence, a legacy to be continued in our hearts and minds. An unselfish man, Dr. King made many personal sacrifices for the cause of humanity. On April 15, 1968, he gave the ultimate sacrifice for humanity, his life. He was truly a great American.

Our Site Committee personnel have been a special dedicated group. When the site committee was first formed, it consisted of three (3) members, Mr. Lester Harris, Mr. Milton Russell and Rev. Wayne Redding, Chairman.

The Site Committee's responsibilities were quite complex and diverse. They included: Phase I - Collaborating with architects to design the concept for the park, preparing construction/destruction cost estimate for park development (including trees, greenery, lights, etc.), conducting public information meeting to inform the community of plans.

In Phase II, we expanded our committee to seven (7) members. Our focus at this point was to interview sculptors, select the best bid, facilitate a contract, oversee entire completion of and erecting the statue and establishing future park related goals. At this time, we are looking at parking needs.

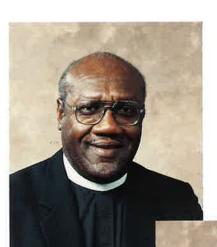
It is with great appreciation that I acknowledge the MLK leadership, city administration and the entire community support for this historic event.

Sincerely,

Rev. Wayne E. Fedding Site Committee Chairman

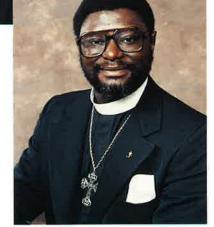


Mr. Lester Harris Engineering Consultant



Rev. Hosea Barnes

**Mr. Milton Russell** Engineering Consultant



Rev. Jack Scott



Rev. Edward Foggs

## The Sculptor: Kenneth G. Ryden

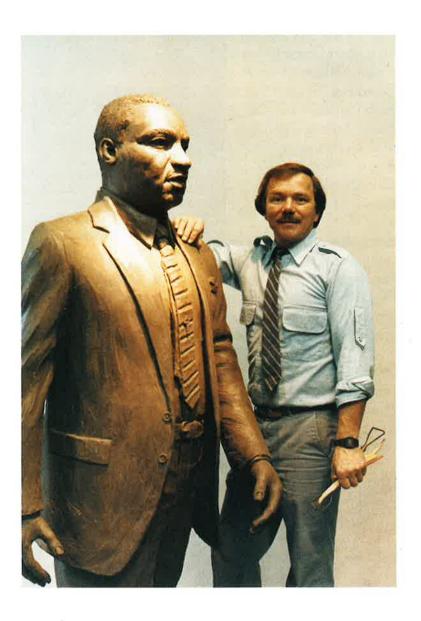
The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Committee, Anderson, Indiana, commissioned Artist Kenneth G. Ryden in the fall of 1987 to create an eight foot tall figurative sculpture as a memorial to the life of Dr. King. Mr. Ryden began research leading to the commission in January of that year. A life size bronze portrait bust, displayed at the M.L.K. Public Library in Washington D.C. culminated his initial pursuit.

Ryden continued preparation for the memorial by studying photographs, reading biographies, and interviewing people who knew King. This coupled with interpreting the memorial site and input from committee members, provided the basis for his design. After some 2000 hours of endeavor, this work of art was completed.

The 'Lost Wax' bronze casting process is thousands of years old. Mr. Ryden, a technically proficient art caster, prefers doing his own foundry work. "I thoroughly enjoy the challenge and historical link bronze casting offers; the entire sculptural process affords me opportunities to achieve the fullest potential in a work."

The sculpture was first created full size in clay over a steel armature. The entire form was then recreated hollow in wax, employing plaster piecemold processes. Resulting wax sections of the form were invested in foundry sand molds and dewaxed for several days in a kiln. Molten silicon bronze was poured at a temperature exceeding 2000 °F. into the cavities of the molds left by the 'Lost Wax.' The castings were then tediously refined and fused together by welding to create a single unit that should withstand the elements for literally thousands of years.

"Creating the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial sculpture has been a most rewarding and challenging experience for me. I sincerely hope that it will serve to commemorate him and symbolize the ideals of the cause for civil and equal rights for numerous generations to come."



Kenneth G. Ryden is Artist-In-Residence and Director of the Art Program at Anderson University. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from The University of Kansas and he has completed post graduate work in Europe. A veteran teacher and professional artist for 20 years, he has completed a wide spectrum of commissions, received numerous awards, and is represented in many collections across the United States. Locally, he has also created the life size bronze portrait bust of Dr. Robert H. Reardon and the full figure memorial sculpture of Dr. John A. Morrison, both situated on the Anderson University Campus.

## Brooks Memorial Chapel

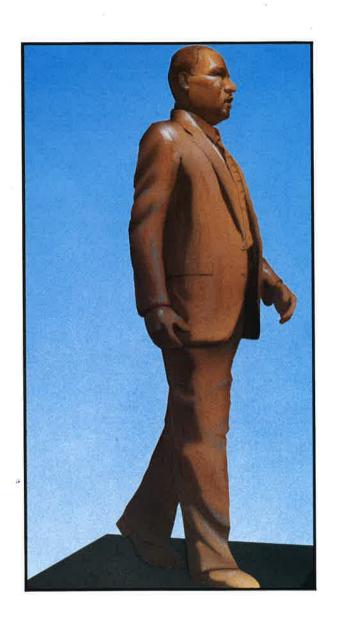
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Anderson, Indiana 46011

We Provide Pre-Arranged Funeral Services

Congratulations to The Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee for its successful efforts in honoring Dr. King.

We support this community project and feel this statue greatly demonstrates the positive results achievable when one can lay aside racial, social, and denominational differences.



"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.