

August 15, 2018

Richard Zavala, Director
Park & Recreation Department
4200 South Freeway, Suite 2200
Fort Worth, TX 76115

Dear Mr. Zavala:

In response to your request, the following provides a summary of Frank Kent's philanthropic efforts benefitting the Fort Worth community. Throughout his life he contributed in many ways and his legacy of "taking care of the people that take care of you - the community," lives on through his grandchildren, Will Churchill and me.

Frank Kent wasn't born in Fort Worth, but quickly made Fort Worth his home with his wife, Florence Peak Jones. Mr. Kent began his first business in Fort Worth in 1917 with the GMC Truck Company. He left Fort Worth for a bit to partner in another dealership in Lubbock, but quickly returned in 1930 to partner in Webb North Buick and then in 1935 started what would become our family's legacy, Frank Kent Motor Company. Frank Kent passed away at his home in Fort Worth in 1987.

Mr. Kent served in World War I in the Infantry and was wounded in battle when a mortar exploded not far from him causing him to have permanent hearing damage and several wounds. His love of service to his country led him in 1958 to help form with other local community leaders what is currently known as the Air Power Council. The Air Power Council was originally formed to support the military at Carswell Air Force Base and has evolved and grown to support even more military members and their families. He was also a long-time supporter of the Pate Museum on Highway 377 which housed various military aircrafts used in missions around the globe.

Mr. Kent owned and operated our family of businesses until his passing in 1987. His guiding philosophy was "Morals, Values and Ethics Before Profit." What this means simply is that if we do things the right way and the honest way, the profit will come, but there is nothing more important than your moral compass. This founding principal that was instilled into my Mother, Wendy Kent Churchill, was instilled into my Brother and I as well. We subsequently established a fund with the sole purpose of benefiting our employees and their families to honor his guiding principal.

For 83 years our company has been in business and from day one, the emphasis that my Great Grandfather set was to always take care of your team and the community that takes care of you.

For this bio you may be looking for the large gifts that Frank Kent made to community that can be pointed to and said look at what he did. However, Mr. Kent while he was a big personality, was also not about the recognition in the gift of giving to help others. Yes, there were causes he gave to through the dealership that brought the spotlight to him, like Jewel Charity Ball that benefits Cook Children's Hospital or giving Cadillacs to the Mayors of Fort Worth at no cost to

the city for use during their term, but his greatest pleasure came from the quieter gifts he gave to the community and people who called it home.

My Great Grandfather had a foundation called the Kent Foundation which he would deposit a percentage of the profits from the dealership into to give back to the community. Community organizations would send letters and he would make annual gifts to selected recipients. My Great Grandfather and Mother would take the letters sent to them throughout the year, sit in a room and read the letters that had been mailed to them. They would receive letters from Churches, Schools, Community Outreach Groups and many others. They would discuss each one of them in depth, to learn each other's perspective and what the benefits to the community would be and how the dollars would be used. The primary criteria had to be that the money remained for the benefit of the community/citizens of Fort Worth. Once the decisions had been made, the checks would be written and then mailed. There was no formal check presentation to draw attention, but a letter would arrive to the recipient in an Ecru Linen envelope with Kent Foundation in the top left corner in Black ink with a note inside that said something to effect of, thank you for your letter we hope this donation helps fund your mission. I never saw the letter itself, only the envelope.

Mr. Kent passed this moral thread down to his Granddaughter and she passed it on to Will and me. It is: you do not help others to get the recognition, you help others to help them grow and succeed. This is all the recognition you need, is to see others succeed.

Mr. Kent was a very lively and well-known person in the Fort Worth community and was proud to call it home. He did make large donations to the community that would bring him attention, but his greatest gifts that he gave to the community were the small ones that only those receiving them knew about.

Therefore, we are asking for Dream Park to be called Frank Kent's Dream Park. It is our thank you to a man who gave so much, so quietly to our community and set up the ability for us to continue and serve the citizens of our team we work with daily, the citizens of Fort Worth and all who will benefit from ability to be able to play and laugh again at Dream Park.

Your favorable consideration and affirmative recommendation to the Park & Recreation Advisory Board and the City Council is appreciated. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Corrie Watson

C: Rachael Churchill, President
Sandy Mesch, Treasurer
Scott Penn, District Superintendent