

July 18, 2006

FLORIDA LOSES “DEAN” OF PHILANTHROPY
H. Clifford Lee Dies at Age 82 Leaving a Legacy of Leadership and Spirit of Accountability

Orlando, Fla. – H. Clifford (Cliff) Lee, Chairman and President Emeritus of the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation died on Sunday, July 16, 2006, in Orlando, Fla. Known as the “Dean” of Florida Philanthropy, Lee served 40 years in the field of philanthropy as a lawyer, foundation executive, and advisor to nonprofits and charities. He leaves a legacy of leadership and a spirit of accountability at the Foundation and throughout Florida’s nonprofit sector.

Together with the late Mrs. Edyth Bush and his long-time friend and legal partner, the late David R. Roberts, Lee created the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation. His leadership and direction resulted in 2,000 foundation grants to more than 375 organizations throughout the state, but primarily in Central Florida, totaling more than \$80 million.

Lee’s modesty and relentless work ethic on behalf of nonprofit organizations earned him recognition with the 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award in Philanthropy given by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Central Florida Chapter.

During Lee’s tenure, the Foundation came to be recognized as one of Florida’s leading philanthropic organizations known for accountability, innovation and creativity. The Foundation was a pioneer in the use of challenge grants, campaign guarantees, social entrepreneurship, program-related investment loans, and other philanthropic tools and techniques to increase and promote charitable giving to benefit the community.

Under his leadership, the Rollins College Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Center, as well as the Florida Philanthropic Network were created. The Rollins College Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Center is the foremost resource in the state for

nonprofit executive education, training and leadership, serving nearly 13,000 people in the past six years. Florida Philanthropic Network is an organization of Florida funders who seek to organize and promote philanthropy across the state.

Mrs. Mary Gretchen Belloff, grand niece of Edyth Bush and Vice Chairman of the Foundation has succeeded Lee as Chairman. She assumes the same office her mother, a niece of Edyth Bush, held during Lee's tenure as President. Herb Holm, the Foundation's former Vice President – Finance and Treasurer, is the sole remaining Founding Board Member of the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation.