

This handmade pottery Hurricane Cross is one of the many unique gift items available at Key Largo Flowers & Gifts.

Made by Rose of Sharon Pottery, it comes packaged with this poem:

THE HURRICANE CROSS ©

Down in the southern tip of Florida
Where hurricanes often blow,
Stand the palm-etched crosses
Whose legend the natives know.

How in the 1930s
On the fearful shores of the Florida Keys,
The crosses faced the wild, wild winds
And the fierce waters of the seas.

The crosses stood their sentry
To protect the ocean's land
From the certain devastation
Of Mother Nature's brutal hand.

Some still watch each season
On the beaches of white sand.
The prayers of the island people
Where the crosses fervently stand.

So if your days are troubled
And you feel you are at a loss,
Stand this pretty palm in your home
And hang your prayers upon this cross.



SANDRA B. THOMAS (Author)

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Artists of the Month: Key Largo Flowers and Gifts

Locals Purchase Key Largo Flower Shop

On June 23, 2017, Kathy English and Sarah Sheer purchased Key Largo Flowers and Gifts and fulfilled a life-long dream to own a business where they could work together and create beautiful things. This mother and daughter team worked in restaurants all their lives, where they learned the hospitality business and the true meaning of excellent customer service. The shop is conveniently located at MM 99.5, right next to Bank of America and the Waldorf Plaza.

Both English and Sheer are naturally creative and they picked up flower arranging with a little help from friends in the business. They have a fresh approach and are making stunning arrangements at prices to fit any budget.

Soon after opening, their business blossomed and last Valentine's Day they delivered over 150 arrangements. The two ladies work side by side and instinctively know when the other one needs a helping hand. Kathy's husband Ralph pitches in too, wherever needed, and makes deliveries as well.

Having lived in Key Largo since 2003, the family is very much community minded. English created a beautiful biodegradable wreath for ocean memorial ash scatterings, made out of grape vine and flowers. Most florists use plastic styrofoam that is not eco-friendly. At times when a special arrangement is requested, Sarah has driven to the mainland to pick up flow-

ers in the early morning hours to ensure the freshest available that will last much longer than grocery store bouquets.



Biodegradable wreath for water-based memorials.

We know it's the thought that counts, but it is so much better to get flowers that will last. English advises everyone who wants to send flowers long distance to take a minute to look up an actual brick-and-mortar shop in the town of the recipient. A lot of the floral ordering services listed on the internet do not provide the best value or freshness.

Recently the ladies expanded their flower shop to include gifts. Their items are unique and different from what you find in other local shops. Included in their inventory are the

Hurricane Cross that includes a poem, greeting cards, jewelry, pet memorials, and tasteful heartfelt gifts for any occasion. Stop by and check it out, open 9-5 M-F, and 9-1 Saturdays... or just call 305-451-3702.

A unique selection of quality gifts at reasonable prices.



Kathy English and Sarah Sheer.



Get A Job!

My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory, but I got canned. Couldn't concentrate.

Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe.

After that, I tried being a Tailor, but wasn't suited for it -- mainly because it was a sew-sew job.

Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory, but it was too exhausting.

Then, tried being a Chef - figured it would add a little spice to my life, but just didn't have the chops for it, or the thyme.

Next, I attempted being a Deli Worker, but any way I sliced it... I couldn't cut the mustard.

My best job was a Musician, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy.

I studied a long time to become a Doctor, but didn't have any patience.

Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory. Tried hard, but it was just not a good fit.

I became a Professional Angler, but discovered I couldn't live on my net income.

Managed to get a good job working for a Pool Maintenance company, but the work was just too draining.

12. So then I got a job in a Workout Center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.

After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a Historian - but I realized there was no future in it.

My last job was working in Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was the same old grind.

So, finally I tried retirement and I found I'm perfect for the job!

Thanks, Trader Dick!

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