

Ken Slaughter Box Featured On LLB Website

The Life Legacy Box organization plans to write and post stories about special boxes and their recipients on its website blog. The following article is such a story, reprinted from the blog at lifelegacybox.org, with permission.

Ken Slaughter's Purple Heart and Decorative Joinery Makes Perfect Tribute to Dr. Joel Rachelson

This exquisite box was made by Ken Slaughter for the Life Legacy Box project. The box is made of Purple Heart, a beautiful natural purple wood which darkens to a purplish brown as it ages. The hand-decorated joinery is maple, whose color is a perfect complement to the richness of the box. It took Ken about 20 hours to make the box, but it would probably take a mere mortal longer than that. Ken teaches Decorative Joinery at Woodcraft in Roswell. He is currently working with some very special and rare (expensive) woods – African Sapele and African/South American Bubinga. He is thinking about making another box, and we certain hope he will. His artistry is special, indeed.

Ken Slaughter has made more than 600 boxes, which he sells in a shop in Blue Ridge. You can ask Ken about his classes and where you can view and buy his work by contacting him at gerry_s_2002@yahoo.com. When Ken finished this unique box, he gave it to Dr. Dwana Bush, whom he had met at a Woodworkers' Guild meeting, and asked her to pass it on to someone she knew to be very spe-

cial. She immediately thought of Joel Rachelson, a beloved psychotherapist well known in the Metropolitan Atlanta area. Joel died of cancer several months ago, and Dr. Bush gave the box to his widow, Kay, also a psychotherapist.



Ken Slaughter's Life Legacy Box combines richly colored purpleheart and light maple.



My Life Legacy Box

"I was so touched by the love Dwana Bush had for my late husband. Her giving me the lovely box touched my heart. It also aided me in my grief as it has helped me to let my husband go. I had magically stayed married to him, as though he would come home any day now. The box, in its lovely representation of a beautiful tomb, has helped me to let the truth of his passing seep into my heart gently and with much grace. Thanks to you [Life Legacy Box] and [Ken Slaughter] the maker of the box for helping those of us who stay and grieve."

Kay Rachelson



Joel and Kay Rachelson

Rockler Supports Box Project

Rockler supports the Life Legacy Box project with classes four times a month. Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 6:30 – 8:30 pm and are FREE! The first two weeks each month will focus on box construction, and the last two weeks will focus on hardware, decoration, and finishing. All classes are lecture style with hands-on opportunities worked into each session. Bring pencil and paper to take notes and a pair of safety glasses. Limit six students per class. You must register in advance by calling the Rockler store at 404-460-1000. The following are the topics planned for upcoming Rockler Legacy Box sessions:

March 6	Making a Rabbeted Butt Joint Box
March 13	Using the Tablesaw
March 20	Creating a Distressed Painted Finish
March 27	