

FRANK TORINO

Frank Sinatra, Elvis or Tom Jones; it's a Night with the Stars

By David Amico

Have you ever noticed they just don't write them like they used to? Want to find some decent entertainment that brings you back to a time where Elvis was king and Sinatra was well, Sinatra? Try Saturday nights at Parrot Key Caribbean Grill in Fort Myers Beach, where you can hear a "Night with the Stars" featuring Frank Torino as Elvis, Sinatra, Tom Jones and more.

Torino has been entertaining in Fort Myers for more than 20 years and is still going strong as a dazzling impersonator of the great stars from the '50s and '60s. Torino's show was originally born in the entertainment capital of Atlantic City, N.J., where he was honored by Billboard, Variety and Atlantic City magazines. Obviously, entertaining comes easy for Torino because it shows in the ease with which he brings to life the great singers of music's Billboard charts. Torino is famous in Fort Myers and beyond for his impersonations of Elvis, Sinatra and Tom Jones. You may ask who could possibly sing good enough to emulate these great singers of yesteryear. Well, I'm here to tell you Frank can. His voice is well polished and finely tuned to an era where crooning was king.

When Torino first set foot in Fort Myers he decided to take a break from being on stage seven nights a week in Atlantic City, New York and Philadelphia. So he went under the radar with his first job in Southwest Florida and became a bellman at the old Sheraton. Downtown Fort Myers.



Incidentally, he was able to meet Johnny Mathis during this three-month period and was reinvigorated to hit the spotlight. Soon he found himself immersed once again in the entertainment industry by opening Flash Backs, a night club that paid tribute to the '50s and '60s. Flash Backs was a popular dance club that won the honor of "Best Dance Club" in SW Florida by the News Press four years in a row. During the late '80s and early '90s at the popular Pier One hot spot, on the beach, Torino began to once again impress people with his ever popular impersonation of Elvis.

Throughout the '90s, Torino was the entertainment director for the Lani Kai where he again took himself out of the spotlight as a singer and focused on the growing popularity of being a DJ. Soon he found the attention of the media. Frank was honored this time by the Beach Bulletin. During his 13-year run at the Lani Kai, Torino captured "Best of the Beach" DJ category for five years in a row.

Today, Torino is dedicated to his show "A Night with the Stars," an outstanding tribute to Sinatra and friends featuring songs from the Big Band era, perfect for cocktail hour, followed by an exciting re-creation of Tom Jones and his powerful ballads. He finishes the night with a tribute to the king himself, Elvis.

Don't miss Frank Torino and his spectacular singing voice for "A Night with the Stars" at Parrot Key on Saturday night or Sunday night at the WindJammer.