

THE SUNCOAST NEWS

NEW PORT RICHEY AND PORT RICHEY EDITION



Maverick healer

Local man brings God and science together through energy healing

KETH LUKE and his canine partner Dr. Light work as energy healers in their New Port Richey home. Dr. Light reminds him to smell the flowers, Luke says.

By Wendy Burrey/SUNCOAST

Maverick healer

Using energy to restore health balance

BY CHERYL BENTLEY
SUNCOAST NEWS STAFF

Visitors to the New Port Richey home of Keth Luke will probably be greeted by big wet kisses.

That's because Luke's dog, Dr. Light, loves to give them. A Labrador-pit bull mix, Dr. Light also enjoys being the topic of conversation. He wags his huge tail. It makes a thumping sound against a human leg like a bongo drum gone wild.

In contrast to Dr. Light's exuberance, Luke is quiet and soft spoken, as befits a man who remembers being sensitive as a child when growing up in Michigan.

Dr. Light is his partner in healing, says Luke. He features the dog's picture on his business card with the words "animal healer" underneath.

Luke, Dr. Light and a third member of the team, Jan Carter, who is now temporarily living in Kentucky, are energy healers.

Energy healers, especially those who use a dog in their work, might appear strange in a country in which healers are supposed to have advanced degrees and wear white coats.

But in his gentle way, Luke has been bucking the conventional wisdom of society since 1975.

Born-again time

That was when he read one of the Seth books by Jane Roberts, a poet, author and psychic medium. "That was my born-again time," he says.

Until her death in 1984, Roberts channeled a nonphysical entity named Seth. Seth gave Roberts information about both physical and nonphysical

reality she published in a series of books.

Many students of metaphysics still consider Roberts' books as valuable signposts in their journeys of self discovery.

Luke readily admits his lifestyle might be more suited to the 1960s than the first decade of the 21st century. He has spent a lot of his life roaming the country living in New Age outposts, including Hawaii, California and Sedona, Ariz., and studying a number of pillars of New Age thought, ranging from astrology to crystals.

Much of his traveling has been in a motor home. While on the road, Luke gives classes and does healings.

When in New Port Richey, he lives in what he has named "House of Grace," the home his mother Grace left him after her death.

Whenever Luke does a healing session, whether in person or by telephone, Dr. Light always appears at his side even though Luke says he never calls him.

Sleeps at his feet

The dog promptly goes to sleep at his feet.

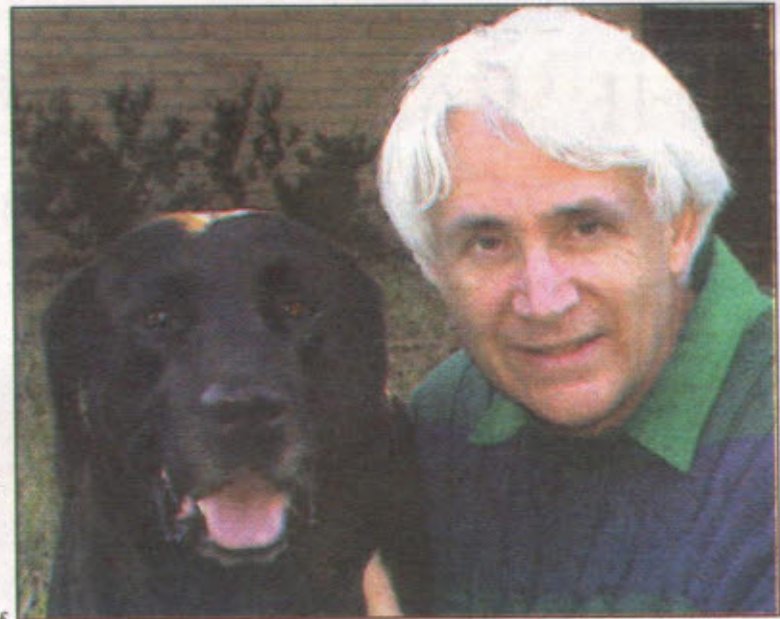
Luke is convinced Dr. Light aids in healing by grounding energy. He also adds unconditional love to the session.

"That's a great opening for healing. Love is what really heals."

Dr. Light also serves as Luke's own teacher.

"His greatest joy is to roll in the grass.

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LIGHT WAS A frequent theme when Keth Luke worked as a photographer-artist. He produced the snow scene at right and the self-portrait above with a much younger Dr. Light.

Photos by Keth Luke



HEALER

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He says, 'Hey, remember this is what life's supposed to be about.'

The humans who consider themselves at the top of the evolutionary scale, Luke points out, might want to reconsider what animals bring to the table.

"They have a real wisdom. They have that inner connection with the Earth and God."

Luke began his healing by studying Reiki, an energetic healing system from Japan that involves hands-on healing.

The inner voice

He still uses Reiki and other physical modalities to structure some sessions, but it is his inner voice that tells him how to do the real healing by working with energy, he says.

He has found he has a gift of sensing what is wrong with the patient.

"I get out of the way," he says. "God does it through me."

Much of his work is humbling, he says, because he does not use his conscious mind much. "It's hard for me to explain. For me, it's a knowing. It's a trusting on my part there's a bigger part that works through me."

He developed the ability to trust his intuition as a professional photographer-artist in Michigan for 18 years.

"A good artist says it's not like they did it themselves. Something comes through them."

Luke's healing works on different principles

from what Americans are accustomed. "It's not like Western medicine when something attacks the body. Whatever you have, your body's telling you something is unbalanced in your life. I work with the whole process of bringing this life back into harmony."

Get energy moving

The body is like an electrical system, he says. Illness creates a blockage. The healer's job is to get the energy moving again.

"When you fix that, the body will heal itself."

Luke has observed, though, that some people do not want to let go of what ails them.

"Sometimes, illness becomes part of their identity. People can't go on without it. The biggest thing is people's willingness to let go."

Michele Spell of Fayetteville, N. C., echoes that assessment. "It's not for everyone," she says of energy healing. "You have to be willing to recognize there is sometimes discomfort with it in the same way there is discomfort after a surgery that will heal you of something physical."

Spell has never met Luke but has contacted him by telephone several times over the past few years to help her clear out old issues.

About 20 percent of Luke's clientele is animals whose guardians have asked for healings for them.

Animals, Keth says, have far fewer difficulties in healing than humans. Almost always, the problem with the animal is a result of emotional problems in their human families, Luke observes.

"Animals express that. They are very emotionally tied."

Sensed grief

Adele McKay, who lives in Wakefield, Quebec, feels that her dog Astrid was picking up McKay's grief about the loss of her father.

Astrid had been lethargic. McKay became especially alarmed when Astrid failed to exhibit her usual enthusiasm for her walks.

Luke and Dr. Light worked with Astrid for about 45 minutes by telephone. There was silence during much of the session, McKay recalls.

Luke told both McKay and Astrid to rest for about a half an hour after the session. He and Dr. Light would continue to work on Astrid during that period, he told her.

At the end of the time, McKay took Astrid for a walk.

The change in the dog was dramatic. "Right away, she started leaping over ditches and jumping over the snow banks. She hadn't jumped over them for a month. It was a huge change."

Luke does healings both in person and by telephone. Much of his business comes from the Internet.

Even though he recognizes he is out of the American mainstream, Luke feels his kind of healing can bring God and science, the two pillars of American life, together.

"If you look at modern science, everything is energy. From the spiritual point of view, it's all God. From a larger point, it's God that does the energy through me. Through it, I'm like God's hands."

For more information on Luke, call 727-842-6788 or visit www.awakening-healing.com.