



Dreams Become A Reality For One Local Family  
The Redway Family: Making Black History Locally

Throughout Black History Month we memorialize iconic African Americans who have made a difference in the lives of many. Whether it was Dr. Martin Luther King or President Barack Obama, their journeys may have traveled different roads but they all started the same...with a dream!

It is no different for the Redway family of Los Angeles, Ca. Kenneth Redway Sr., father to five sons: Andrew, Leonard, Kenneth Jr., Edwin, and Owen, had a dream that his five boys (dubbed “5RB” for 5 Redway Brothers by their mother Elaine) would stick together and become successful tradesman. Well, 32 years later Kenneth Sr. can sit back and reflect on how his dream has become a reality. All five of his sons have not only become successful entrepreneurs but they have worked together in doing so.

*About the 5 Redway Brothers*



Andrew, 32  
Plumber, Licensed Barber  
and Owner of  
*Drew Kuts Mobile  
Barbering Service,*  
Culinary Chef



Leonard, 31  
Founder of *LRS Plumbing*  
and President of 5RB Inc.



Kenneth, 29  
Director of Marketing and  
Sales for  
*LRS Plumbing*



Edwin, 27  
Owner, *E-Dubble’s  
Catering*, Personal Chef  
Extraordinaire and  
Creative Mind behind  
*E-Dubble’s Sunday Brunch*  
in Los Angeles



Owen, 25  
Journeyman Plumber and  
Plumbing Supervisor for  
*LRS Plumbing*



**Andrew “Drew” Redway**, the multi-talented elder Redway brother, has been a popular barber since completing Barbering School at Abraham Friedman Occupational center in 1995, all the while still attending Alexander Hamilton High School. He formed a small client base of fellow students and would cut hair during nutrition and lunch times. Fourteen years later, Andrew still retains some of those same loyal clients.

Besides barbering, Andrew has gained popularity being the face of the famed *LRS PLUMBERS*. He joined his brother Leonard in mid-1999 in his mission of “*CHANGING THE WAY YOU VIEW PLUMBERS*”. Taught by his father, Kenneth Sr. and brother Leonard, Andrew excelled with the company and eventually became the face of the brand.

Drew is also an accomplished culinary chef working side by side with his brother Edwin, aka Chef E Dubble, at *E Dubble’s Catering*. Recently they had a successful Sunday Brunch that ran for 64 weeks at high-end venues: *Life on Wilshire*, *Libertines on Sunset*, and *The 3 Lounge* in downtown Los Angeles. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen corporate complications, *The 3 Lounge* closed unexpectedly.



**Leonard Redway** founded *LRS Plumbing* in 1997 shortly after graduating from Susan Miller Dorsey High School, however his journey dates back much further than that. His father Ken recalls, “...when Leonard was as young as 5 years old, he would wake up at 4:00 AM and come in the room while I was getting dressed for work and ask if he could go too. Some days I would say no and he would go back to bed disappointed and crying. Depending on my day’s schedule and what type of construction site we were working on, my wife would pressure me to go in the room and tell him he could go, this process repeated every summer until I closed my business.”

Inspired by his father’s leadership and business acumen, Leonard founded *Five Redway Brothers*

*Incorporated* or 5RB, Inc. In 2002, his initial plan was to provide all the family's business ventures with a corporate structure. Eventually, he used 5RB in a charitable fashion and in 2006 he founded the *5RB Vocational Education Awareness Program*. The program traveled to approximately 7 schools its first year bringing exposure to the seldom talked about careers available with a Vocational degree. These include Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, Electrical, Carpentry, Barbering, Cosmetology, and Culinary Arts.

The funding for the philanthropic efforts comes from the sales of The PLUMBERS Calendar which made its debut at the 2007 Los Angeles Black Business Expo and Trade Show. The inaugural year of the calendar's release, The PLUMBERS were chosen as the "Black Business of the Year" and were featured in the ad campaign for the Los Angeles Black Business Expo and Trade Show, along with actor Malik Yoba and actress Wendy Raquel Robinson.

In 2010, in the long standing aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, LR Services Plumbing sponsored Leonard and Owen on a missionary trip to Mississippi to assist with the much needed rebuilding efforts. The company's charitable work continues in 2011, as they support the Jenesse Center for domestic violence with proceeds from the newest calendar sales.



**Kenneth Redway** was the last to join the LRS Plumbing Team. He has formally been an independent contractor for FED EX Ground and independent delivery driver for Hostess cakes. He joined the family business late 2010 and brought the corporate skills he possessed along with him. His addition to the business has been invaluable in such a short period of time. Kenneth is in charge of the new sales and marketing Department LRS PLUMBING recently launched. The company will seek to earn the business of child day cares, adult daycares, charter schools, senior centers, and large management companies. Kenneth and fellow professional Vincent Paul will set out to make the LRS PLUMBING Co. more successful in 2011.



**Edwin Redway** adopted the moniker "Chef E. Dubble" shortly after high school. His journey to becoming a respected culinary artist began in the 11th grade when his instructor entered him into a district-wide cooking competition, for which the prize was a scholarship to Le Cordon Bleu in London, England. Edwin's natural skill allowed him to outshine all of the competition and win the cook-off, despite even being pitted against the more experienced seniors of the Los Angeles Unified School District. That following summer, the sizzling young chef humbly accepted the prestigious award and went on to attend the reputable school of Gastronomy, Hospitality and Management in London. Upon his return, Edwin made the wise decision to finish his culinary training at Los Angeles Trade & Technical College.

In 2004, Edwin followed an entrepreneurial urge to start his own business; thus, E. Dubble Catering and Private Chef Services was born. Chef E. Dubble's boutique company has catered an array of events for celebrities, corporations and community organizations. His cuisine is featured in many locations across Greater Los Angeles, such as The Comedy Union and The Laugh Factory to name a few. Although Edwin is proud of these placements, his greatest since of satisfaction comes from utilizing his talents to benefit the community.

Along with his eldest brother, Andrew who also is a culinary chef, they recently had a successful Sunday Brunch that ran for 64 weeks at high-end venues: *Life on Wilshire*, *Libertines on Sunset*, and *The 3 Lounge* in downtown Los Angeles. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen corporate complications, *The 3 Lounge* closed unexpectedly.



**Owen Redway**, the youngest of the 5RB joined the LRS Plumbing team while still in high school the summer of his Jr. Year. Leonard would pick up Owen take him and train him on all types of plumbing projects. Within 4 years Owen became a Journeyman Plumber an eventually the Plumbing Supervisor. He is now responsible for overseeing all the day to day field operations and customer service for the company.

You may ask yourself, how all five of these young men achieved this measure of success? In a recent interview with Kenneth Redway Sr., who asked to be called Ken, it was revealed that he owned and operated *Systems Designed & Installed Plumbing* (SDI) from 1979 – 1986, which specialized in new construction. Ken's first big break came in 1983 when he was awarded a prevailing wage project in the popular Baldwin Hills area. SDI Plumbing installed plumbing for 40 condo units on the Don

Tomaso project. To this day SDI's plumbing is still installed there. Ken went on to talk about how the trades run deep in to the blood lines of the Redway family.

He continues, "...my father, Leonard Earl Redway, was sheet metal worker for the navy ships during World War 2." After the war he worked at the Brooklyn Naval shipyard and he eventually transferred his family to California where he worked at the Long Beach Naval shipyard until its closure. "During my tenure as a plumbing contractor I was anxious to learn the Plumbing service and repair side. I enlisted the help of a friend and mentor Kamel Balian co-owner of Balian's market. He introduced me to Solon Harvey aka as Harvey the Plumber. Mr. Harvey was a service and repair specialist in and around Los Angeles. His father taught him the plumbing business in the late 50's.

*A great friendship and working relationship between Mr. Harvey and I formed, assisting and teaching one another our specific specialties. I taught him new construction and code and he taught me the intricate details of Plumbing Repair service and roofer.*

*He treated me like family and I eventually became family when I married his daughter Elaine Maryellen Harvey, in October of 1976. We had Andrew in 1978 and the rest followed soon after finally having Owen in 1986. Generation after generation on both sides of the family have tradesman heritage."*

When I asked Leonard if he has a dream he responded "I dream a hope that I am around to see minority businesses awarded majority contracts on public sector projects, and the loop holes in bonding a qualifications being closed"

For more information on the Redways go to [www.lrsplumbing.com](http://www.lrsplumbing.com) or [www.edubblecatering.com](http://www.edubblecatering.com)

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