



Office of the Chicago City
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R2012-138

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 1/18/2012
Sponsor(s): Reboyas, Ariel (30)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to late Alfonso Rivera Rodriguez
Committee(s) Assignment:

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called to his eternal reward Alfonso Rivera Rodriguez, Sr., 87, on Sunday, December 11, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by the Honorable Ariel E. Reboyras, Alderman of the 30th Ward; and,

WHEREAS, Alfonso Rivera Rodriguez, Sr. was born on January 23, 1921 in the valley of Patilla, which is located in the mountains of the southeastern coast of Puerto Rico. He lived at Cacao Arrika, a hillside top of a mountain; and,

WHEREAS, Alfonso married his childhood sweetheart, Valentina, whom he knew from a very young age. Valentina was born a year after Alfonso and lived at Cacao Bajo, the bottom hillside of the same mountain. In 1928, there was a devastating and disastrous hurricane called San Felipe Segundo that swept through Puerto Rico. For shelter, under a house, at the age of four, a terrified Alfonso held onto three year old Valentina, protecting and comforting her as the hurricane blew. From this experience, they knew they were meant to be together; and,

WHEREAS, As Alfonso and Valentina raised their growing family in Puerto Rico, Alfonso took a life changing opportunity as a migrant worker in Saginaw, Michigan. From there, his job took him traveling around Michigan and Indiana. His job contract ended and Alfonso landed in Chicago where he found a job working at Leaf Brand Candy Company, making 50 cents an hour. After a few years of working, he saved enough to get an apartment on Erie Street and sent for his wife and children; and,

WHEREAS, After working about twenty-five years at the candy company, Alfonso worked for Crane Packing Company as a Forman for another thirty-seven years. After never missing a day of work or taking any vacation, Alfonso retired and enjoyed his golden years with his family; and,

WHEREAS, Alfonso is survived by his children; Luis and Dawn Rodriguez, of Zeeland, Hector and Martha Rodriguez, of Zeeland, Rosa Maria Rodriguez, of Zeeland, Carlos and Belinda Rodriguez, of Chicago, Alfonso, Jr. and Dora Rodriguez, of Zeeland, Mildred and Conrado Garcia, of Zeeland, Ernesto and Thelma Rodriguez, of Florida, Leticia and Rafael Cintron, of Zeeland, Eddie and Evelyn Rodriguez, of Holland, Wilfredo Christopher Rodriguez, of Zeeland, Marcella R. Rodriguez, of Holland, Joanne and Richard Ocasio, of Holland; 99 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; his brothers and sisters; Benjamin Diaz, Jesus Diaz, Eliza Diaz, Eufemia Diaz, Irma Rivera, Iza Rivera, Sorida Rivera, Erotida Rivera, Angel Luis Rivera, Santo Luis Rivera; and friend to many; and,

WHEREAS, To his family and friends, Alfonso will be deeply missed, but the memory of his character, dedication, and his passion will live on in those he touched, and who knew and loved him; and now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 18th day of January, 2012 A.D., hereby express our sorrow on his passing, and extend to his family and friends our deepest sympathy; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Alfonso Rodriguez, Sr.



Ariel E. Reboyras
Alderman, 30th Ward

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