



City of Chicago



R2015-171

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/18/2015
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Janet S. Otwell
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of her passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, A longtime resident of Evanston, Janet S. Otwell was a former leader of a state agency and the loving wife of Ralph; and

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell was the much-adored mother of the Honorable Brian, Douglas and David, the grandmother of five and the great-grandmother of one; and

WHEREAS, Raised in suburban Philadelphia, Janet S. Otwell came to the Chicago area to attend Northwestern University where she earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in journalism; and

WHEREAS, While attending college, Janet S. Otwell met her future husband who became Editor of the *Chicago-Sun-Times*; and

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell and her family lived in Evanston for more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, From 1968 to 1982, Janet S. Otwell was a member of the Illinois League of Women Voters; and

WHEREAS, As President of the organization, Janet S. Otwell spearheaded efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment and directed the Illinois Juvenile Court Watchdog Project; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in 1984, Janet S. Otwell served for seven years as the Director of the Illinois Department on Aging under Governor James R. Thompson and in that role championed efforts to fight elder abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell was later named the Midwest Director for AARP where she oversaw activities in ten regional states; and

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell was a member of the Task Force on the Future of Illinois, the Bureau of Employment Security Advisory Board and the White House Conference on Families; and

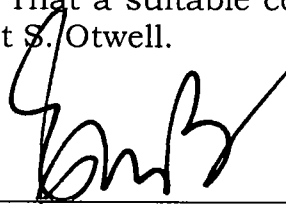
WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Janet S. Otwell serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, Janet S. Otwell will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by her many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To her beloved family, Janet S. Otwell imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this eighteenth day of March, 2015, do hereby commemorate Janet S. Otwell for her grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Janet S. Otwell.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. B. B.', is written over a horizontal line.

Alderman - 14th Ward