

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE LIFE
AND MEMORY OF DONALD EDISON SIMMONS**

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2023, God called home Donald Edison Simmons, family man, Christian, and beloved member of the 16th Ward community; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by the Honorable Stephanie D Coleman, Alderman of the 16th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Donald was born on June 7, 1944, to the union of John and Lucille Simmons in Brewton, Alabama, the third of six children; and

WHEREAS, Don took his education seriously, graduating from Booker T. Washington High School in Alabama, where he played football; following graduation, he moved to Minneapolis, where he earned a degree in radiology technology; and

WHEREAS, Later, Donald would follow his brother to Chicago, working for United Airlines until he began his career as a radiologist, a job he enjoyed tremendously, first at Roosevelt Hospital, before transitioning to private practice for Dr. Smith; and

WHEREAS, Donald and his brother had an entrepreneurial spirit, and in 1980, they opened "Taste Disco: A Premier Night Club"; the club's doors would remain open until 2018; and

WHEREAS, In 1982 Don met and married the love of his life – Gloria Todd; and

WHEREAS, Donald was an active and dedicated member of several ministries, having accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior in 2011, when he was baptized at Faith Movers Church; and

WHEREAS, Donald leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 40 years, Gloria; two sons, Rodney Simmons (Tracye), and Roderick Todd-Simmons (Tasha); one daughter, Lisa; three sisters, Phyllis, Betty, and Clarence Jones (Eddie); five grandchildren, Amira, Ja'Vontae, Kim, Kenny, and Kennzell; 20 nieces; eight great-nephews; 16 great-nieces; one great-great-nephew; and a host of other relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Donald touched the lives of all who knew him, and his memory will live on as we cherish and love all he shared with us; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this nineteenth day of April 2023, do hereby extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Donald Edison Simmons; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Donald Edison Simmons as a sign of our honor and respect.

STEPHANIE D. COLEMAN
Alderman 16th Ward