

City of Chicago



R2015-26

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 1/21/2015

Sponsor(s): Burke (14)

Type: Resolution

Title: Tribute to late Dr. Henry Betts

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

- **WHEREAS,** Dr. Henry Betts 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 his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and
- whereas, A resident of the Old Town neighborhood, Dr. Henry Betts was a pioneer in the field of rehabilitation medicine and the loving husband for 45 years of Monika; and
- **WHEREAS,** Dr. Henry Betts was the much-adored father of Amanda and the grandfather of one to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities that he possessed in abundance; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts was the dear and devoted brother of Marguerite; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts championed efforts to transform the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago into one of the nation's leading treatment facilities; and
- **WHEREAS,** A native of New Rochelle, New York, Dr. Henry Betts graduated from Princeton University and earned his medical degree from the University of Virginia; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts served during his residency at New York University under Dr. Howard Rusk, considered the founder of rehabilitation medicine, and was assigned to care for Kennedy family patriarch Joseph, P. Kennedy who suffered a major stroke in 1961; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts was later sent by Dr. Rusk to Chicago to work alongside Dr. Paul Magnuson, the founder of the Rehabilitation Institute; and
- WHEREAS, An outspoken advocate of the disabled, Dr. Henry Betts worked tirelessly to raise money for the Institute and played an influential role in the design and construction of its 20-story facility at 345 East Superior Street; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts later worked to expand the Institute's ties with academic hospitals and its affiliation with Northwestern Memorial Hospital which was the first such physical medicine and rehabilitation residency in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts served as Chief Executive Officer of the Institute from 1986 until his retirement at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his retirement, Dr. Henry Betts remained an active fundraiser and consultant for the Institute; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Dr. Henry Betts serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Betts will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Dr. Henry Betts 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 twenty-first day of January, 2015, do hereby commemorate Dr. Henry Betts for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Dr. Henry Betts.

Alderman – 14th Ward