



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



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Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/27/2012
Sponsor(s): Burke, Edward M. (14)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to late Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark
Committee(s) Assignment:

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of sixty-eight; and

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

WHEREAS, An appellate attorney turned Lutheran minister, the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark was the loving and devoted wife of Leland Wilkinson; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark was the much-adored mother of Amie and Caroline, to whom she imparted many of the fine and noble qualities which she possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark was the beloved grandmother of two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, As leader of the Wicker Park Lutheran Church, The Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark created outreach programs which grew the congregation, restored church facilities, and better connected the church with the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, Prior to her role with the church, the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark was a partner in a prominent Chicago law firm, acting as president of the Appellate Lawyers Association and arguing numerous cases before the Illinois Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, A native of South Dakota, The Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark attended Vassar College before earning a master's degree from the Harvard University Divinity School; and

WHEREAS, As leader of the Wicker Park Lutheran Church, the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark worked to create both a center for worship and a center for arts and culture, regularly hosting art shows, concerts and festivals on church grounds; and

WHEREAS, To her beloved family, the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark 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-seventh day of June, 2012, do hereby commemorate the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark 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 the Reverend Ruth Elaine VanDemark.

Alderman - 14th Ward

Donal Quinlan
Media Liaison
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