



City of Chicago

Office of the City Clerk Document Tracking Sheet



R2021-962

Meeting Date:	9/14/2021
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Joe Pecoraro
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Joe Pecoraro has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 91; and

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

WHEREAS, Joe was married to Peggy nee Stewart for 64 years, and is survived by his children Mary Kelly, Nancy (Tony) Pecoraro and Joseph, Jr. (Katherine) Pecoraro, grandchildren, extended family, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Joe was born on July 23, 1930 and lived all of his life in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Joe graduated from Schurz High School, and then earned his Bachelor's Degree in Education from DePaul University where he was a ticket manager for the DePaul Blue Demons Basketball team for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, He taught at DePaul University and St. Edmunds grade school in Oak Park for many years; and

WHEREAS, In 1949, Joe began his career with the Chicago Park District as a lifeguard; and

WHEREAS, Joe's love for Chicago's beaches and pools kept him at the Chicago Park District for over 54 years, until he retired as General Superintendent of Beaches and Pools; and

WHEREAS, Joe served in the U.S. Army for two years, where he taught swimming to the First Calvary Division in Tokyo; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure at the Chicago Park District, Joe managed over 1,000 lifeguards, over 30 miles of beaches and almost 100 pools; and

WHEREAS, Joe was President of the United States Lifesaving Association from 1983-1991, and President of the Great Lakes Region of the USLA for over 20 years; and

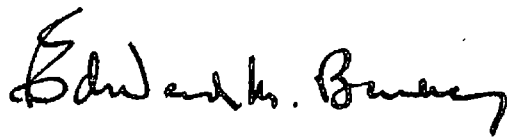
WHEREAS, Joe helped introduce swimming to the Special Olympics in 1968, along with Anne Burke, and was honored in 2018 at the 50th Anniversary of that inaugural event; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his long career he received many accolades, but one of his favorite memories was meeting President Ronald Reagan in the Oval Office in recognition of his water safety work; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Joe Pecoraro 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 Fourteenth day of September, 2021, do hereby commemorate Joe Pecoraro 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 Joe Pecoraro.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward M. Burke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "B".

Edward M. Burke
Alderman, 14th Ward