



Office of the City Clerk



R2012-760

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	7/25/2012
Sponsor(s):	Austin, Carrie M. (34)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Harold L. Brandon
Committee(s) Assignment:	

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD L BRANDON

WHEREAS, In His Infinite Wisdom, Almighty God has granted Harold L. Brandon, an outstanding citizen and devoted public servant, eternal rest on July 8, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Harold Brandon began his life journey in this city on October 10, 1931 as the second child of the late Ella and Henry J. Brandon, Sr. His family united with Arnett Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church on the Far South Side when he was six months old and he remained a faithful congregant for the next eight decades. In his teens he was a youth leader. In early adulthood he was on the Trustee Board. In his later years he became the church accountant and was elected to a term as president of the church's senior group, Wisdom's Children; and

WHEREAS, A senior member of the church recognized that the young Harold Brandon was very adept with numbers and mentored him in the complex and detailed field of financial management. This early exposure led him to pursue a career as an accountant, an inspiration he passed along to other young people in his later life; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from John D. Shoop Elementary, he entered Morgan Park High School but, after his freshman year there, he was admitted to and graduated from the more prestigious Tilden Technical High School due to his high grades and excellent test scores. He matriculated to The University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana but had his studies interrupted by military service during the Korean Conflict where he served with distinction in the 101st Airborne Division as a military police officer; and

WHEREAS, Upon his Honorable Discharge, he completed college and post-graduate degrees at Roosevelt University, earning additional certification in Supervisory Management and Executive Training. He started his professional accounting career with the City of Chicago but eventually became one of the first African-American stockbrokers to trade for Dempsey-Tegler & Co. In the late 1960s, he was appointed to a management position with Chicago's Model Cities Program. Eventually, he retired as a Deputy Director of Finance after 28 years of loyal service only to start his own tax accounting business. He was a practicing accountant up until the time of his passing at the age of 80; and

WHEREAS, Harold L. Brandon leaves behind to mourn his loss and cherish his memory his cherished love, Sylvia Brandon and their daughters, Marla (Jimmy), Patricia and Eden; grandsons, Devin, Dion, Mylan, Dustin, and Dylan; his brother, Hugh; sister-in-law, June C. Brandon; cousin, Geneva Bell; nephews, Henry J. Brandon III (Monique) and John Christopher Brandon (Angelique); niece, Jill Brandon Morgan (Jeffery); adopted granddaughter, Veda Neff and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ella and Henry Brandon, Sr.; sister, Aldine Brandon Gates and brother, Henry Jefferson Brandon, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Carrie M. Austin, Alderman of the 34th Ward and Chair of the Committee on Budget and Government Operations, has apprised this august body of the passing of Harold L. Brandon, now therefore

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together this twenty-fifth day of July 2012 A.D., do hereby express our collective sorrow upon learning of the passing of Harold L. Brandon and extend our deepest condolences to his family and all those special friends whose lives he touched.

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Harold L. Brandon



CARRIE M. AUSTIN
Alderman - 34th Ward

