

City of Chicago

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R2016-757

Meeting Date:

Sponsor(s):

Type:

Title:

Committee(s) Assignment:

10/5/2016

Burke (14)

Resolution

Tribute to late Charles R. Walgreen III

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Charles R. Walgreen III has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 80; and

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

WHEREAS, A resident of Lake Forest, Charles R. Walgreen III was the former head of Walgreens drug store chain; and

WHEREAS, Walgreens was founded in 1901 in Chicago by the grandfather of Charles R. Walgreen III who turned a corner drugstore at 4134 South Cottage Grove Avenue into a giant chain; and

WHEREAS, Born in Chicago, Charles R. Walgreen III was called "Cork" by his grandfather who considered him a real "corker," or singular individual; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Walgreen III grew up stocking shelves in the family's Evanston store and attended pharmacy school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor; and

WHEREAS, After his graduation in 1958, Charles R. Walgreen III worked in a number of positions at Walgreens before being named President in 1969, Chief Executive Officer in 1971 and Chairman in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Walgreen III was the third member of the Walgreen family to lead the Deerfield-based company to which he dedicated his career for 58 years; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Charles R. Walgreen III, the company reported 23 straight years of earning increases and quadrupled the number of stores; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure, Charles R. Walgreen III refocused the chain on its pharmacy business, health and beauty aids and photo services while closing peripheral operations such as its restaurants and soda fountains; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Walgreen III established a number of innovations, including a computerized prescription management system; and

WHEREAS, Following a long and highly distinguished career, Charles R. Walgreen III retired as Chief Executive Officer in 1998 and as Chairman of the Board in 1999; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Charles R. Walgreen III serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, His love of life and ability to live it to the fullest endeared Charles R. Walgreen III to his family members, friends and all who knew him, and enabled him to enrich their lives in ways they will never forget; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Walgreen III was an individual of great integrity and accomplishment who will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To his loving wife, Kathleen, his eight children, his nineteen grandchildren and his great-grandchild, Charles R. Walgreen III 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 fifth day of October, 2016, do hereby commemorate Charles R. Walgreen III 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 Charles R. Walgreen III.

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