



City of Chicago



R2015-163

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/18/2015
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Joseph Langdell
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 100; and

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

WHEREAS, A resident of Yuba City, California, Joseph Langdell was a highly distinguished veteran of World War II and the loving husband of the late Elizabeth, nee McGauhy; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell was the much-adored father of John (Navy-Ret.) and Ted to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities that he possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell was the last surviving officer of the battleship USS Arizona which was sunk during the 1941 Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and propelled the United States into World War II; and

WHEREAS, A native of Wilton, New Hampshire, Joseph Langdell graduated from Boston University and attended the US Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School at Northwestern University in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell was a 27-year-old ensign stationed in Hawaii when the attack occurred during the morning hours of December 7, 1941, killing 1,177 of his shipmates; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell was billeted in officers' quarters on Ford Island near battleship row when he was suddenly awakened by the sounds of fighter planes and explosions; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell rushed to rescue injured sailors and Marines, many covered in burning oil, after the USS Arizona was bombed; and

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WHEREAS, Following the war, Joseph Langdell ran a home furnishings business in Yuba City and was named a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell was a leading member of the USS Arizona Reunion Association and for many years organized its annual reunion in Tucson, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Joseph Langdell serve as an example to all; and

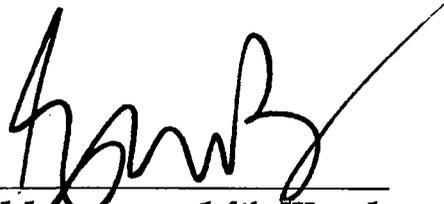
WHEREAS, His love of life and ability to live it to the fullest endeared Joseph Langdell to his family members, friends and all who knew him, and enabled him to enrich their lives in ways they will never forget; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Langdell will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Joseph Langdell 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 eighteenth day of March, 2015, do hereby commemorate Joseph Langdell 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 Joseph Langdell.



Alderman - 14th Ward