

City of Chicago



R2017-439

Office of the City Clerk Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

5/24/2017

Sponsor(s):

Burke (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Leo K. Thorsness

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 85; and

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

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness was a highly decorated veteran and the loving husband of Gaylee; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness was the much-adored father of Dawn and the grandfather of two to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities that he possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness was the dear brother of Donna; and

WHEREAS, A highly decorated United States Air Force pilot, Leo K. Thorsness was shot down during the Vietnam War while attacking surface-to-air missile sites; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness was held prisoner for six years in North Vietnam and shared a cell with U.S. Senator John McCain in the notorious "Hanoi Hilton"; and

WHEREAS, While in captivity, the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness endured more than a year in solitary confinement and unspeakable pain and suffering; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Leo K. Thorsness retired as a Colonel and was a recipient of the Medal of Honor, the military's highest award for valor; and

WHEREAS, In 1988 the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness was elected to serve as a legislator in Washington state; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness 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-fourth day of May, 2017, do hereby commemorate the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness 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 the Honorable Leo K. Thorsness.

Alderman – 14th Ward