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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 12/14/2011
Sponsor(s): Harris, Michelle A. (8)
Type: Resolution
Title: Tribute to Late Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon
Committee(s) Assignment:

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, God in His infinite wisdom and judgment has called Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon, outstanding citizen and beloved friend, to his eternal reward Sunday, October 9, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon was born on July 25, 1923 in Brooklyn, Illinois to the union of Willis and Irene O'Bannon. He was the fourth of six children, Amarie, Woodrew, Othia, Mitchell, Edward and Orlandus; all preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon received his education in the Brooklyn, Lovejoy and Venice Illinois school system. He excelled in his classes in every school he attended. Mitchell, the first child in his family to attend college, received a Bachelor of Arts Degree and Masters Degree in History from the University of Illinois in Urbana; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell served his country proudly in the United States Army, and was Staff Sergeant in the Asiatic Pacific Theater of Operations. Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon was the recipient of a multitude of ribbon and medals for his bravery; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell and the love of his life, the former Odessa Cooper, were united in Holy Matrimony and were blessed with two children, Michael Jacques and Sandra Michele. Mitchell was an active member of Salem Lutheran Church in 1952. He served as a Boy Scout Council member, Church Council Chairman, worked with the Luther League, Cub Scout Board and participated in numerous activities at church; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell was employed with the Chicago Board of Education for nearly forty years. As a high school social studies teacher, Mitchell influenced hundreds of young adults. He was a respected and effective administrator in the role of Assistant Principal and as Principal; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon was extensively involved in civic and charitable organizations. He made a lifelong pledge to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and received his 60-year pin at the Centennial Celebration in July 2011. He assumed a leadership role in such organizations as: Chicago Assembly on the Governing Board, Chairperson of the Pill Hill Coalition, the Chicago Urban League and the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, He was a devoted and loving husband to Odessa for sixty-one years, a loving and nurturing father, grandfather, and uncle. He provided his family with an abundance of love. His wife, children and grandchildren were his life; and

WHEREAS, He leaves to cherish loving memories of his love and devotion; his wife Odessa; children, Michael Jacques (Joyce) and Sandra Michele Reynolds (Jim); grandchildren, John Martin O'Bannon (Ann) James Reynolds, III, Kendall Marie Reynolds and Miles Joseph Reynolds; devoted niece, Ehria Hudson, and a host of other extended family members and friends. Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon will be deeply missed but the memory of his character, intelligence and compassion will live on in those who knew and loved him; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 14th day of December 2011 A.D., do hereby express our sorrow on the passing of Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon and extend to his family and friends our sincere condolences.

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Mitchell Joseph O'Bannon.

Michelle Harris

MICHELLE A. HARRIS
Alderman – 8th Ward