

City of Chicago



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Office of the City Clerk

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Sponsor(s):

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Burke (14)

Resolution

Congratulations extended to Johnny Lattner on 82nd birthday and declaration of December 15, 2014, as "Johnny Lattner Day" in Chicago

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, A proud member of the Irish-American community and a legendary Chicago sports hero, Johnny Lattner celebrated the occasion of his 82nd Birthday on October 24, 2014; and

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

WHEREAS, The son of William and May Lattner, Johnny Lattner was born in 1932 and raised on the West Side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner attended St. Thomas Aquinas Grammar School, Fenwick High School and the University of Notre Dame; and

WHEREAS, A consensus All-American football player for the Fighting Irish, Johnny Lattner was awarded the Maxwell Award as the top collegiate player in both his junior and senior years; and

WHEREAS, In 1953 Johnny Lattner was awarded the Heisman Award and remains the only born-and-raised Chicagoan to win the trophy; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner appeared on the cover of the November 9, 1953, edition of *Time Magazine* with the caption "a bread and butter ball carrier," a characterization bestowed upon him by Notre Dame Head Coach Frank Leahy; and

WHEREAS, Following his college years, Johnny Lattner was an outstanding rookie with the Pittsburgh Steelers before he joined the United States Air Force where a knee injury ended his professional football career; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding athletic ability, Johnny Lattner was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame, the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame, and the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner married his childhood sweetheart, the former Peggy McAllister, and the couple raised eight children; and

WHEREAS, Aside from college years and military service, the Lattners have always lived in the Chicago area; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner's Restaurant, first located at 105 West Madison Street, and then in Marina Towers, was a prominent Chicago gathering spot for decades; and

WHEREAS, For more than 40 years, Johnny Lattner has led Chicago's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, carrying the banner of St. Patrick; and

WHEREAS, The *Chicago Tribune* has written that no one has ever "out-Irished" Johnny Lattner who sports a kilt and green stockings to this event; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner Johnny has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to Maryville Academy, and the Red Cloud Indian School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lattner is currently active in The Wounded Warrior Soldier Ride, held yearly in the Chicago area; and

WHEREAS, A testament to the greatness of Notre Dame University and Catholic Education, Johnny Lattner has always been a goodwill ambassador for the City of Chicago; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, The Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this 5th day of November, 2014, do hereby congratulate Johnny Lattner on the occasion of his 82nd Birthday and do hereby proclaim that December 15, 2014, shall be officially recognized as *Johnny Lattner Day* throughout the City of Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Johnny Lattner.