

Office of the City Clerk



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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

9/12/2012

Sponsor(s):

Burke, Edward M. (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Admiral James D. Watkins

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of eighty-five; and

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

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins was a highly distinguished veteran of the United States Navy and the loving husband of Janet; and

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins was the much-adored father of Catherine, Laura Jo, Susan, Charles, James Jr., Edward, Christopher, Sean, Robert, and Siobhan, the grandfather of fourteen and the great-grandfather of three to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities which he possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, A native of California, the health of the oceans was Admiral James D. Watkins' greatest passion; and

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis and served in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars; and

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins rose to the level of Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Chief of Naval Personnel, and Vice Chief of Naval Operations before President Ronald Reagan appointed him to serve as Chief of Naval Operations in 1982; and

WHEREAS, At the height of the AIDS crisis, Admiral James D. Watkins was appointed by President Reagan to lead the Presidential Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, which recommended increased research and treatment as well as federal legislation banning discrimination against those living with AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Admiral James D. Watkins served as Energy Secretary under President George H.W. Bush, and was named Chairman of the Commission on Ocean Policy in 2001, which called for better controls over coastal pollution and greater scientific input in regulatory policies; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Admiral James D. Watkins 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-fifth day of September, 2012, do hereby commemorate Admiral James D. Watkins 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 Admiral James D. Watkins.

Alderman - 14th Ward