



City of Chicago



R2020-600

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	9/9/2020
Sponsor(s):	Austin (34)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Hardwell Smith.
Committee(s) Assignment:	

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, God in His Infinite Wisdom has called Hardwell Smith, a beloved patriarch, husband and humble citizen, to his eternal reward on March 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, This august body has been informed of Hardwell Smith's passing by the Honorable Carrie M. Austin, Alderman of the 34th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Born on September 16, 1934, to the union of Felix Smith Sr. and Annie Lou Callaway-Smith in County of Greene, Penfield, Georgia, Hardwell was the fourth of eight siblings. Forty-seven years later to the day on September 16, 1981, he entered into holy matrimony with his soul mate Annie Conner. Their marriage was blessed to co-parent ten loving offspring, endowing him a lovingly devoted family man and proud father; and

WHEREAS, Hardwell was affectionately called Smitty by his family and friends. In Atlanta Georgia he became known for his entrepreneurial spirit, when at an early age he started repairing cars and performing odd jobs to help support his siblings. Smitty would later move to Chicago, Illinois, gained employment at Ford Motor Company, whereby he mastered 90% of the auto repair line skill sets, earning himself the station of excellent trainer/supervisor. The trades learned would facilitate his successful launch his own automotive repair shop, Smitty's Body Shop. His ultimate love and passion was driven to mentor young men to pursue entrepreneurial prospects. He would himself go on to achieve ownership of additional businesses, including several gas stations, a car wash, Smitty's Body Shop, Dimension Automotive Repair & Towing Services, a grocery store, lounge, liquor store, S&E Towing & Automotive Services and real estate property owner; and

WHEREAS, Hardwell Smith accepted Christ as a tender young lad and was baptized. He matured in the faith and continued fellowship, later recommitting his life again to Jesus, he joined Home of Life M.B. Church under Pastor Johnny Henderson for 25 years. He then joined Logos Baptist Assembly in 2005, remaining a devoted member, blessed by the teachings of Reverend Dr. Donald L. Parson of the importance of giving, until December 12, 2019. Smitty fellowshiped a short time thereafter under the leadership of Pastor Bill, APC Morgan Park Church, yet sustained his love and devotion to Pastor Parson visiting his Logos Family regularly; and

WHEREAS, Hardwell "Smitty" Smith touched many lives through genuine kindness, generosity and encouragement. A true man of God who will be sorely missed, but

fondly remembered for his compassion, unconditional love, nurturing soul and exemplary accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, he leaves to cherish his loving memory, his life-partner wife Annie, thirteen children, Fredrick (Josephine), Phyllis (Jesse), Cardell Sr. (Willea), Jacqueline (Oscar), Rhonda, Felecia (YaYa), Marchelle, Dion, Annetti, Reggie (Tina), Edwin (Amanda), Rashiek and Carolyn; sisters Sara L. Smith-Stephens, Thelma Smith-Settles, Gladys Smith of Georgia, Annette Smith-Haggerty of Chicago; aunts, uncles, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, godsons and daughters, and host of friends, special friends Carey Davis and Alderman Carrie M. Austin; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 9th day of September, 2020, do hereby extend our most heartfelt condolences to the family, loved ones and friends of Hardwell "Smitty" Smith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Hardwell Smith as a sign of our honor and respect.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carrie M. Austin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

CARRIE M. AUSTIN
Alderman, 34th Ward