



# City of Chicago



R2020-448

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 6/17/2020  
**Sponsor(s):** Burke (14)  
**Type:** Resolution  
**Title:** Tribute to late Michael Benning McCaskey  
**Committee(s) Assignment:**

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, Michael Benning McCaskey has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 76; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Michael is survived by his mother, who is 97; two children, John Kathryn; three sisters, Ellie McCaskey Tonquest, Mary McCaskey and Anne Catron; six brothers, Patrick, Edward, George, Richard, Brian and Joseph; and a grandson; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Benning McCaskey was born on December 11, 1943, in Lancaster, Pa, the oldest of Edward and Virginia McCaskey's 11 children; and

**WHEREAS**, He grew up in Des Plaines, IL a suburb of Chicago, and graduated from Notre Dame High School in Niles, IL; and

**WHEREAS**, After graduating from Yale University in 1965, he went on to work as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia, then later earned a doctorate in business from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1972; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael was a professor of organizational behavior and management when George S. Halas, the team's founder, died in 1983; and

**WHEREAS**, After the passing of George S. Halas, Virginia Halas McCaskey, took over as the team's owner, and Michael joined the Bears as president and chief executive; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael oversaw a team that reclaimed its old nickname the Monsters of the Midway, led by the running back Walter Payton, the quarterback Jim McMahon and the lineman William "Refrigerator" Perry; and

**WHEREAS**, When the Bears won the Super Bowl championship in 1986, he was voted N.F.L. Executive of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1999, Michael replaced his father, Ed McCaskey, as the team's chairman, a role held until 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, To his beloved family, Michael Benning McCaskey 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 Seventeenth day of June, 2020, do hereby commemorate Michael

Benning McCaskey 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 Michael Benning McCaskey.

---

Edward M. Burke  
Alderman, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward