

Office of the Chicago City Clerk



R2012-295

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

3/14/2012

Sponsor(s):

Burke, Edward M. (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Harry McPherson Jr.

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of eighty-two; and

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

WHEREAS, A distinguished public servant, Harry McPherson, Jr., was the loving and devoted husband of Mary Patricia DeGroot; and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr. was the much-adored father of Coco, Peter, and Samuel to whom he imparted many of the fine and noble qualities which he possessed in abundance; and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., served as chief advisor and speechwriter for President Lyndon B. Johnson from 1966 through 1969, and worked on such historically significant issues as civil rights and the war in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, A native of Tyler, Texas, Harry McPherson, Jr., served in the United States Air Force from 1950 through 1953 before earning his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law, and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., held positions at the Pentagon and State Department before joining the Johnson White House in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., shaped some of President Johnson's most important policy speeches, including the nationally-televised 1969 address which announced both a halt to the bombing in North Vietnam and the President's decision to not seek re-election; and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., was known for his sound judgment, unshakable loyalty, and wise opinions during the turbulent years of Lyndon B. Johnson's presidency; and

WHEREAS, Harry McPherson, Jr., remained in Washington after leaving the White House and worked as a lawyer and lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Harry McPherson, Jr., 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 fourteenth day of March, 2012, do hereby commemorate Harry McPherson, Jr., 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 Harry McPherson/Jr.

Alderman - 14th Ward