



City of Chicago



R2021-1073

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	10/14/2021
Sponsor(s):	Tunney (44)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Ronald S. Miller
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ronald S. Miller, age 89, died, suddenly but peacefully, in Chicago on September 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this occasion by Alderman Thomas Tunney of the 44th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Miller was born in Chicago September 28, 1931, to Ruth and Manuel Miller. Ron grew up in Albany Park and received his undergraduate (1953) and law (1955) degrees from the University of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Ron served as a journalist in the Army from 1955 to 1957, stationed mostly in Germany, then began practicing law in 1957; and

WHEREAS, In 1961, he joined the firm co-founded by future U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg. His association with the firm, now known as Miller, Shakman, Levine and Feldman, continued for 60 years, most recently as a retired partner; and

WHEREAS, Ron's focus was on real estate and hotel law, but he prized his pro bono work, especially in civil rights law, where he became a much-honored leader locally and nationally. Ron represented protesters arrested at the 1968 Democratic National Convention, then took leadership positions in the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Isaac Ray Center, the Center for Disability and Elder Law and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Miller received many awards for his work. The Chicago Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy named him a Legal Legend. He won the first Edwin A. Rothschild Award for Lifetime Achievement in Civil Rights from the Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. The American Bar Association gave him its Pickering Pro Bono Award; and

WHEREAS, He was most recently known for his Public Affairs Roundtable, which he began in retirement more than 25 years ago to bring notable speakers together with local leaders to discuss issues of the day. Speakers over the years included Barack Obama and other leading politicians, Nobel Prize winners, senators, journalists, architects and educators. A born connector, he had a vast circle of friends and loved bringing them together, preferably over lunch; and

WHEREAS, Ron and his beloved wife Pat travelled the globe but remained true Chicagoans, seeking the best in the city's cultural events, generously supporting arts and civic organizations with their attendance and philanthropy. Their apartment gave him a cherished view over Lincoln Park and the lake. For years he walked four miles to work, stopping in summer for a swim in the lake before donning his business suit and heading to the office; and

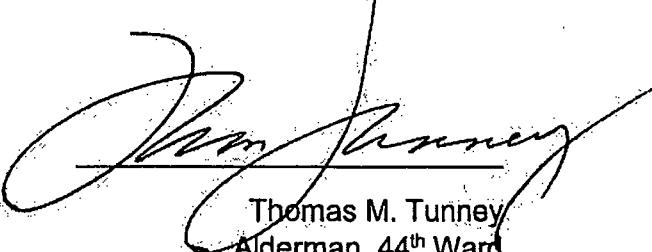
WHEREAS, Ron was always grateful for his good fortune, amazed that the boy from Albany Park lived such a rich life, and counted his blessings of the "three f's" – his family, his firm and his many friends; and

WHEREAS, He is survived by Patricia, his adored wife of 59 years, by their two daughters, Michelle (James) Keller and Lynn (Bill) Carr, and by his grandchildren Zachary, Matthew and Claire Keller and Evan and Maddox Carr. He and was preceded in death by his parents and his only brother, Ira Miller; and

WHEREAS, Ronald S. Miller served the City of Chicago, the Chicago legal community and social justice community with compassion and integrity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this 14th of October, 2021, do hereby honor the service and accomplishments of Ronald S. Miller and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Ronald S. Miller as a symbol of our esteem and sympathy.



Thomas M. Tunney
Alderman, 44th Ward