

City of Chicago



R2019-334

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 5/29/2019

Sponsor(s): Beale (9)

Type: Resolution

Title: Tribute to late Alpheus Ywain Fields

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, This august Body wishes to extend its heart-felt-sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Ywain Fields upon his passing on May 18, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Alpheus Fields was born March 19, 1962 to Alpheus H. Fields and Willie Doris Fields. From an early age he was affectionately known by his middle name, "Ywain"; and

WHEREAS, Ywain attended elementary school at O'Keefe and Frank I. Bennett, graduating from middle school in 1975. He went on to graduate from Mendel Catholic High School; and

WHEREAS, Ywain attended Illinois State University from 1979 to 1981 before transferring to Columbia College in Chicago, from where he graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor's Degree in Radio and TV Broadcasting. While at Illinois State, Mr. Fields was the Head Director of the Interdenominational Youth Choir. The choir toured various universities, gospel music workshops and in 1980 recorded a gospel album entitled "Make a Joyful Noise"; and

WHEREAS, Music was a passion of Ywain from an early age. He studied the Suzuki Music Method; and

WHEREAS, In his formative years, Ywain enjoyed the music of The Jackson 5 and James Brown; and

WHEREAS, Ywain joined Chicago radio station WVON in 1983, interning for legendary radio personality and co-owner of WVON, Pervis Spann; and

WHEREAS, Ywain's talent, creativity and strong connection to music and the church led him to his first on-air position at WVON as a gospel music host, where he became affectionately known as "Deacon" Ywain Fields; and

WHEREAS, Ywain's 36-year career at WVON would find him holding a number of positions and excelling in all of them due to his talent and his love of music and radio; and

WHEREAS, He spent his last eight years at WVON as the overnight jock. He changed his name from "Deacon Ywain" to "Insane Ywain" and renamed the overnight show "The B Sides"; and

WHEREAS, Ywain's legacy in Chicago radio is legendary and his contributions to the field of music and radio will not be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Ywain Fields is survived by his loving mother, Doris Fields, his caring son Phillip and dear daughter Aubrielle Fields, as well as his step-children Sidney, Terrian, and Torrian and many other relatives and; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twenty-ninth day of May, 2019, do hereby honor and pay tribute to Mr. Ywain Fields as we honor this exceptional man here today and extend our sympathies to his family and friends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Mr. Ywain Fields as a token of our sympathy and esteem.

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Anthony A. Beale Alderman, 9th Ward

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