



City of Chicago



R2021-88

Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date:	2/26/2021
Sponsor(s):	Sawyer (6)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Finnie L. Haire
Committee(s) Assignment:	



A Resolution

adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*

TRIBUTE TO FINNIE L. HAIRE

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2021, almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has granted eternal peace to Finnie L. Haire, legendary shrimp shack owner and an outstanding member of the Auburn-Gresham community; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Wendell Phillips High School, Haire served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Cuban missile crisis and four tours of duty in Vietnam as well as being stationed in Japan. After his honorable discharge, he returned to Chicago to further his education and attain practical skills; and

WHEREAS, Finnie Haire matriculated at Kennedy King College, Business Institute of Technology, Beauty & Barber College, and Chicago State University where he studied business management, utilizing those acquired skills to perform data control for IBM; and

WHEREAS, for three decades, Finnie Haire was employed by the U.S. Postal Service, retiring in 1992 as General Forman, a position that he was initially denied. However, after traveling to Washington, D.C. and meeting with the Postmaster General, he was given that position and, within a year, he was able to build a task force and introduce efficiencies that saved the postal service \$14 million by resolving Chicago's mis-sorted mail; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the post office, Finnie Haire opened up a shrimp shack in an old railroad caboose car on Stoney Island Avenue, utilizing a century-old secret recipe for deep-fried Gulf shrimp originating with Haire's family in Louisiana. Haire's small, family-owned business established two other Gulf shrimp restaurants on Vincennes Avenue; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his successful business ventures, Finnie Haire was a father of five, grandfather to 29, and great-grandfather of eight; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Roderick Sawyer, Alderman of the 6th Ward has apprised this august body of the passing of this icon of this city's South Side at the age of 80; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered this 24th Day of February, 2021 AD, do hereby express our sincere sorrow upon the passing of Finnie L. Haire and extend our deepest condolences to his family, close friends and the many people whose lives he touched.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Finnie L. Haire.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roderick T. Sawyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Roderick T. Sawyer
Alderman - 6th Ward