



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR THOMAS L. VASQUEZ

WHEREAS, Thomas Luna Vasquez left this earthly plane on July 25, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has been informed of his passing by the Honorable Michael D. Rodriguez, Alderman of the 22nd Ward; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Luna Vasquez was born October 12, 1943 in Matamoros, Mexico to Maria de Socorro L. Guzman and Jose T. Vasquez; and

WHEREAS, An immigrant to this country and hardworking provider for his family since his teenage years in Mexico, Thomas eventually found his way to the Little Village neighborhood on Chicago's Southwest Side; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1980s, Thomas met a group of young like-minded individuals questioning the lack of services and lack of representation in positions of power in the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Eventually going on to form an Independent Political Organization to address the needs of working class families in Little Village and North Lawndale, Thomas served the organization as a Vice President and Precinct Captain for numerous years, positions he held with conviction, pride, and honor; and

WHEREAS, Thomas spent 26 years working for the Chicago Transit Authority, and when he eventually retired, he remained active and engaged in his community and with his family; and

WHEREAS, Preceded in death by his wife, two sons, one grandson, parents, and brothers, loss never stopped Thomas from offering a helping hand or a kind word when needed; and

WHEREAS, Fiercely protective of those he loved, Thomas was equally as generous and kind to strangers, with his love of service and community extending from organizing block parties to working the polls on election day and attending Local School Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, As the oldest brother to many siblings, loving father of four sons, a grandfather, a great-grandfather, a great-great-grandfather, and a mentor and father figure to countless, Thomas Vasquez and his legacy will continue to be felt for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Thomas leaves not only a family that grieves him but a community that was impacted by his contribution and convictions; and

WHEREAS, Thomas was a living legend, who has gone on to be a bright star illuminating our paths as we continue to honor his legacy by ensuring that the voices of working class people are heard in the City of Chicago; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this eighteenth day of December 2019, do hereby extend our most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Thomas Luna Vasquez; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Thomas Luna Vasquez as a sign of our honor, gratitude, and respect.

MICHAEL D. RODRIGUEZ Alderman, 22nd Ward

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