

WHEREAS, Along with St. Syms, Markham also coached for many Clear Ridge Baseball Teams. In 2002, his son Tommy's 9-year-old "All Star" team won sectionals in an upset - the opposing team even had a victory pizza waiting for them but ended up losing. In 2003, the 10-year-old team went to State and won; in 2004, the 11-year-old team placed 3rd; and in 2005, the 12 year olds placed 5^h. Markham made a name for the Clear Ridge "All Star" team, taking home titles that made the Southside of Chicago proud; and

WHEREAS, Besides being a great coach, Tom was also the best husband and father. He met his wife, Nancy, at End Zone bar on Western, and six months later, they were engaged. Thomas F. Markham Jr. and Nancy Ann McGlearn were married on July 8, 1988 at St. Gabriel Catholic Church in Canaryville. They had three children: Brian George, Thomas Francis III and Quinn Kathleen. He was always involved with his son's sports and went to every father-daughter dance from Kindergarten to Senior Year with his daughter Quinn. He was the life of the party and the first one to dance with the girls. He was outgoing, larger than life (not just because he was 6'6"), and could make anyone feel good. His number one job was being a dad, not just to his own children but to all of the kids in the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Tom was truly a force to be reckoned with. Even when he was diagnosed with cancer, he never wanted anyone to see him as weak or sick, even until very end. He wanted to always be known as strong, resilient, and living up to the nickname "Big Tom." And that is exactly how we all remember him; and

WHEREAS, The Markham Family continues to live at 6015 South Melvina Avenue. They continue to keep Big Tom's legacy alive in the Clear Ridge Community; and

WHEREAS, The 6000 block of South Melvina Avenue in the Clear Ridge Neighborhood of the 13th Ward is honored as Big Tom Way because he was a wonderful husband, father, friend and coach. His legacy embodies sportsmanship and family values. He encouraged his children and teams to always try their very best. He remains an inspiring example of the parent, coach and friend we should all strive to be; now, therefore

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council assembled here this twenty-third day of March, 2022 do hereby recognize the 6000 block of South Melvina Avenue in the Clear Ridge Neighborhood of the 13th Ward as Big Tom Way; and

Be it Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Thomas F. Markham Jr.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Qujnr(y)", written over a horizontal line.

Marty Qujnr(y) / Alderman, 13th Ward