



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

File #: R2020-335, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Brian Manion Dennehy has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 81; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, Dennehy is survived by his wife, designer Jennifer Arnott, whom he married in 1988, and by their children, Cormac and Sarah, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Kathleen and Deirdre, from his first marriage to Judith Scheff; and

WHEREAS, Dennehy was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and grew up first in Brooklyn, New York, then at the age of 12 moved to Mineola, Long Island; and

WHEREAS, Dennehy was educated at Chaminade Middle School, where a teacher encouraged him to pursue a career in acting, but he chose sports instead and went to Columbia University on a soccer scholarship before joining the Marines; and

WHEREAS, After the Marines, he completed a bachelor's degree in dramatic arts at Yale and later worked as a shipping driver, butcher, bartender, and stockbroker; and

WHEREAS, Dennehy worked nonstop throughout his career and appeared in a series of TV films, five of which he also directed, as Chicago police Jack Reed, starting with Deadly Matrimony (1992), most recently he had a recurring role on television in Public Morals (2015) and The Blacklist (2016-2019); and

WHEREAS, Dennehy is best known for his breakthrough screen as a hostile small-town sheriff in First Blood (1982); and

WHEREAS, Dennehy won the Tony and Olivier awards for playing Willy Loman in New York and London in the production of Death of a Salesman (respectively in 1999 and 2005), as well as the Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards for the 2000 version; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, Brian Manion Dennehy imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twentieth day of May, 2020, do hereby commemorate Brian Manion Dennehy for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Brian

Manion Dennehy.

Edward M. Burke Alderman, 14th Ward