

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 97

Approved March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, On Wednesday, February 23, 2022, former Rhode Island General Treasurer and proud resident of Ward 5 in Elmhurst Anthony Solomon passed away at age 89; and

WHEREAS, Both of Mr. Solomon's parents were emigres from a tiny village named Kfarsghab in Northern Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon attended Providence College and Rhode Island College of Pharmacy and received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon and his wife Sarah together embarked earnestly on their quest for the American Dream. In 1957, after the birth of their first two children, they opened Anthony's Drug Store on Manton Avenue in Providence, RI where Anthony served as a registered pharmacist; and

WHEREAS, He spent countless hours in the drugstore which led him to be an important part of this working-class neighborhood. Servicing the needs of people from all walks of life became his calling as well as his occupation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon took the next step in the American Dream by running for State Representative in 1966 and winning his first election. He served 10 years in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, serving his neighborhood faithfully, while also spending many hours weekly at the drugstore meeting the needs of his loyal customers; and

WHEREAS, In 1976 Mr. Solomon took the bold step of running for State General Treasurer against a 28-year incumbent. Against all odds, he won this election and transformed the Treasury office into a modern organization, and achieved record results during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, As General Treasurer, Anthony served on many commissions and boards dealing with the public's finances. He also was a member of the National Association of State Treasurers including serving as President during 1980-1981; and

WHEREAS, In 1984 he took on another challenge by running for Governor of the State of Rhode Island. Four years later, he again ran for General Treasurer and was returned to office by Rhode Island's astute voters, and won reelection once more in 1990. He served until 1993 when he retired from elected office, but not public service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was very proud when he was named man of the year by The Christian Brothers Boys Association of LaSalle Academy, his alma mater, in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was an active member of many religious, civic, and political associations during his life, and he took great pride in the National Association/Apostolate of Maronites (NAM). For over 50 years he devoted his time to NAM, both nationally and locally. Locally, he was a dedicated parishioner of St. George's Maronite Catholic Church, now located in Cranston, RI; and

WHEREAS, In July of 1999 in Minneapolis, MN, Mr. Solomon and his wife Sarah were presented with the prestigious Gold Massabki Award by the National Apostolate in recognition of their characteristics of true Christian values; qualities of national leadership and example to the Apostolate; and devotion above and beyond the call of duty to the Maronite Catholic Church in the USA; and

WHEREAS, He, always the family man, and his wife of over 50 years, the late Sarah, had four children Donna M. Harrison of Providence; Former Providence City Council President Michael A. Solomon of Providence; Sharon A. Solomon-Santilli of North Providence; and Anthony E. 'Babes' Solomon of North Providence; and

WHEREAS, He was the loving father-in-law to Denise Solomon; Mark Santilli, Sr.; Nancy Solomon; and the late Andy Harrison; and

WHEREAS, To his grandchildren, he was 'Jiddo' and was devoted to each one: Elissa Kingsland and Anthony Harrison, III; Tarah Provencal (Paul), Alanna Scott (James) and Lauren Monaco (Sean); Lindsay Lynch (Timothy) and Mark Santilli, Jr. (Stephanie); and Samantha Sowik (Jason); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon leaves 12 great-grandchildren: Adele, Milan, Deacon, Violet, Elliot, Michael, Isla, Emilia, Christopher, Nora, Layne, and Noah; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was a role model for the entire Providence community through his personal values and dedicated public service, he leaves behind a lasting impression on the thousands of lives he impacted both in the City and the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence hereby honors the memory and legacy of Anthony Solomon, father of former Council President Michael Solomon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence extends its deepest condolences to the entire Solomon Family, as well as Mr. Solomon's extended family and friends throughout Providence and beyond.

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAR 03 2022
READ AND PASSED


JOHN J. IGLIZZI, PRESIDENT

CLERK
ACTING

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor
Date: 3/11/22