

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 345

Approved June 8, 1981

RESOLVED, That this Minute on the Life and Character of William H. "Dixie" Matthews, late First Deputy City Clerk of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, who passed from this life on the 14th day of May, 1981, is hereby adopted, ordered inscribed on the records of this City Council and that a duly certified copy be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

## M I N U T E

William H. Matthews was born in Providence, Rhode Island on December 2, 1909, the son of the late Charles E. and Mary (Logan) Matthews.

He worked for the City of Providence for thirty-eight years, having begun his employment in Sewer Maintenance Section of the Public Works Department, working his way upward, until he was appointed Second Deputy City Clerk on February 18, 1963 and First Deputy City Clerk on September 6, 1963.

Effective January 12, 1973, "Dixie" elected to retire from City Service, never forgetting all friends and associates in City Government and returning occasionally to afford all an opportunity to be with his effervescent personality.

Renown in the field of sports, he was a three-sport competitor having played football, baseball and basketball, known in the sports world as the best athlete ever to come out of Rhode Island.

"Dixie", being a humble and respectful individual, endeared himself to all and sundry, by virtue of his everlasting smile and always helping those in need, regardless of color or creed, his counsel to his legion of friends, was highly respected.

Active throughout his life in the political and civic areas, he was a delegate to Democratic National Conventions that nominated Adlai Stevenson, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

Having served his Country, he entered the United States Army on April 4, 1941, and was discharged as a Staff Sergeant in October of 1945.

With the loss of "Dixie" Matthews, the Community in which he lived and served so well, experience a great void; however, it will take consolation in the many memorials that he leaves.

It is the Resolve of the Members of this City Council that Almighty God, in His Divine Wisdom and Mercy, having taken Unto Himself, the Soul of William H. "Dixie" Matthews, bestow upon him, the eternal rest and peace he has so deservedly earned, and that his beloved wife, Catherine, be aware of the high esteem in which her late husband has been held throughout his life and knowing that all are aware of the great loss she has sustained by the passing of "Dixie".

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUN 4 1981  
READ AND PASSED

*Ralph Laing*  
CITY CLERK

*Rose M. Mendonca*  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED  
*James J. Laing*  
MAYOR

JUN 8 1981

Council President Fagnoli + Members of the City Council

June 17, 1981

Mrs. Catherine Matthews  
Incorporated Street  
Providence, RI 02906

Dear Catherine,

Enclosed is certified copy of the Resolution passed unanimously by the City Council in memory of your beloved husband Dixie. I do feel it must have been somewhat gratifying during your bereavement period, which I am sure will continue, to know of the respect and admiration in which Dixie was held. People of all levels certainly honored him showing he was never forgotten although many had not seen him for a long period of time.

Dixie always spoke of you highly and we in this Department know of your closeness as I am sure you know that we who were associated with him will never forget him.

Sincerely,

Rose H. Mendonca,  
City Clerk.