

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 359

Approved September 15, 2017

WHEREAS, Thomas "Tom" Bates was a native of Utica, New York who came to Rhode Island for college, fell in love with Providence, and never left; and

WHEREAS, He graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a degree in Graphic Design in 1967; and

WHEREAS, During his time in college, he was the president of his senior class and the RISD Student Council, and he loved running events there, bringing music legends such as Janis Joplin and Thelonious Monk to perform at the college; and

WHEREAS, He was a historic preservationist whose signature design flourish was using old, repurposed windows for flair and function in his bars, restaurants and residences; and

WHEREAS, He was a major player in Providence's downtown and waterfront revival, helping create vibrant social and cultural establishments, including the original Met Café, Hot Club, and Trinity Brew House; Maverick's and Nickanees; and

WHEREAS, He was instantly recognizable with his long white beard, sparkling blue eyes and warm, welcoming smile; and

WHEREAS, Tom had a love and passion for motorcycles and was known to keep a few in his living room; and

WHEREAS, He had a love for home construction and design, restoring numerous homes in Providence, Pawtucket, and Warren; and

WHEREAS, He never met a person he didn't want to help to achieve their dreams, whether it was constructing or renovating a home or starting their own business; and



WHEREAS, Thomas Bates passed away on Friday, August 18, 2017 at the age of 74; and


WHEREAS, He is survived by his six children, his daughter and son-in-law, Brittan and Todd Manni of Smithfield, RI; his son and daughter-in-law Eben and Sarah Bates of Rehoboth, MA; his son, Jedediah Bates and Kendra Oliveira of Bristol, RI; his daughter and son-in-law Flora and Toby Anderson of Providence, RI; his daughter Piper Bates of Providence, RI; his daughter and son-in-law Samantha and Jared Melei of Cranston, RI; and

WHEREAS, He leaves behind his six grandchildren - Madison, Isaac, Emerson, Kaeden, Blaise, and Sulo; and

WHEREAS, He is also survived by the mothers of his children Irene Bates and Carol Aijala.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby recognize and honor the life and legacy of Thomas Bates and his dedication to improving life in Providence.

IN CITY COUNCIL
SEP 07 2017
READ AND PASSED

ACTING PRES.

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

Mayor
Date: 9/15/17