

RESOLUTION NUMBER 211

Otis Grundy

WHEREAS, Otis Grundy was born in Texarkana, Texas, on February 15, 1926, to Eddie Lincoln and Isadora Shepard; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Grundy entered the Army on November 16, 1945; he served as a Longshoreman in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska and was honorably discharged on December 11, 1946; he was awarded the World War II Victory Medal; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Grundy moved to St. Louis by 1948, where he took a vocational course for veterans offered by Saint Louis University; he chose tailoring; in 1950, he met and married Velma Jackson; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Mr. Grundy honed his tailoring skills to become a much-sought-after “Master Tailor” at stores including Squires; Hart, Schaffner and Marx; Boyds; and Saks Fifth Avenue, finally “retiring” from Saks Fifth Avenue in 1994; he nonetheless continued his tailoring work from his longtime home on Theodosia Avenue; and

WHEREAS, while he served an elite and loyal clientele, including August Busch, Sr., he was never too busy to replace a zipper or repair a rip for his neighbors and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Grundy was big brother “Bootee” to two sisters, Dorothy Jo and Ollie Jean, from his father Eddie Lincoln; and 10 other brothers and sisters, Azell, Thelma, Charles, Louise, Cotis, Bennie C, Charlie Ray, Harold, Jimmy, and Paul, born to his mom, Isadora; all but Dorothy, Harold, and Jimmy have preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Grundy was a soft-spoken and articulate gentleman, he often credited God for his long and successful life; he was a longtime member of Christ’s Southern Mission Baptist Church where he sang in the choir; he was also an active member of Amvet Post 67; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Grundy passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by family on February 25, 2016, just days after celebrating his 90th birthday; he is survived by two daughters, Angela Grundy (Ralph) and Valerie Grundy Grimes-Shropshire (Adrian), and two sons, Elton Blake Grundy (Barbara) and Kenneth E. Grundy (Angela); his wife Velma and his son Ricky Grundy preceded him in death; he also leaves 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to recognize the life and many contributions of Mr. Otis Grundy to our City and our community. Further, we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may presented at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 4th day of March, 2016, by:

The Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward

Adopted this the 4th day of March, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O’Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen