

**Resolution Number 77**  
**George Ignatius Kennedy**

**WHEREAS**, George I. Kennedy was born in St Louis and has lived his entire life here. George's parents, Harry and Ida Kennedy, met at the 1904 World's Fair, Harry from St. Louis and Ida Schuhmann up from Louisville, KY. They married and had eight children, George was their seventh. George grew up on Lindell Blvd. not far from the New Cathedral. George went to Cathedral Grade school and was an alter boy. He apparently holds the record for climbing out onto the Cathedral dome and making it down the most tiles, 13! George's family moved to Kingsbury Ave. and St. Roch Parish when he was in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. George graduated from St. Roch and went to St. Louis University High School. He graduated in 1943 from SLUH. Once graduated, he and his friends all went and enlisted in the services for WWII. George went into the Marines and was in the First Marine Division. He was stationed in the Pacific and fought at Peleliu and Okinawa. George was a Corporal and the Radio Operator in the Artillery and earned two bronze stars; and

**WHEREAS**, George returned home, went to St. Louis University. While going to college, George worked for the McCarthy Brothers Construction. Once graduated, George started working for D'Arcy McManus and Masius Advertising Company. George was on the Coca Cola account and then moved to the Anheuser Busch account. He even did some modeling in his younger days for Anheuser Busch products. He worked at D'Arcy for 33 years and retired at age 62; and

**WHEREAS**, George's true claim to fame was catching and marrying the love of his life, Helen Jane Murphy. Their first date was April 13, 1947 and they dated for 8 years. Helen Jane sent him on his way many times due to his trouble pulling the trigger on marriage. George was always held back by the thought that he wanted to be a priest. He finally asked Helen Jane to marry him and they were married October 22, 1955. Helen Jane Murphy worked for the St. Louis Cardinals, was Bing DeVine's secretary and the first woman to go to Spring Training with the team; and

**WHEREAS**, George and Helen Jane had two children, George Calahan "Cal" Kennedy and Joris Murphy "Jorie" Kennedy. George cared for Helen Jane once she was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and later Lewey Body Dementia. George was with Helen Jane every minute of her illness and loved her completely. Helen Jane Murphy Kennedy went to heaven on November 24, 2010. George is incomplete without Helen Jane by his side; and

**Whereas**, George's best friend is his black lab, Molly. They do everything together and go everywhere together. George has also been blessed with a wonderful son-in-law, Steve O'Malley and two amazing grandson's John Mulcahy "Jack" O'Malley and Peter Murphy "Pete" O'Malley; and

**WHEREAS**, George is a proud member of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, where he attends daily Mass. He is a member of the Ghouls Athletic Club, a group that started in a room over a garage in the Parkview Neighborhood with about 15 teenage boys in 1940. The Ghouls grew to more than 25 members and the girlfriends and wives of the Ghouls started the WAGs, Women's Auxiliary Ghouls. These were, and are, George's best friends. George was an avid tennis player and ranked in St. Louis at one time. He had to stop playing at age 85 when Helen Jane got too ill and George did not want to leave her side.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize George Ignatius Kennedy and we further 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 be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 13th day of June, 2014 by:

**Honorable Donna Baringer, Alderwoman 16th Ward**

Adopted this the 13th day of June, 2014 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen