

RESOLUTION NUMBER 68

Louis Wesley Preston

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the passing of St. Louis resident, Louis Wesley Preston; and

WHEREAS, Louis Wesley Preston, the son of the late Stephen & Cora Bertha Preston was born June 15, 1923; and

WHEREAS, Louis' siblings, Ruth, Cora, Doris, Herbert, Stephen, Eugene and Leon all preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, he was educated in the St. Louis Public Schools. He graduated from Vashon High School in 1943. At an early age he confessed hope in Christ and joined Wayman Temple AME Church. He was in the US Army from July 31, 1943 to February 28, 1946 (World War II Veteran). Louis married Jessie Griswold, who he referred to as his last heart beat and the love of his life; and

WHEREAS, Louis had many great accomplishments in life. He was hired as the first African American United States Postal Auto Body Repairman, retiring after 34 years of service. He was also the president of the US Postal Auto Body Mechanic Union in 1976-1986. He completed Washington University School of Continuing Education with a certificate of accomplishment for Small Business Management. He was the proud owner of Action Auto Repair business for over 60 years. He was a member of 9th & 10th (Horse) Calvary association "The Buffalo Soldiers". He was a member of Prince Hall Masons/Masonic Lodge (Square Deal Lodge No. 159); and

WHEREAS, he joined St. John AME Church and was a faithful member and usher until his health failed one month ago. He also was a great father, grandfather, uncle, brother, and son to many people. He always expressed great love for his family; and

WHEREAS, he leaves to cherish his memories, his beloved wife, Jessie Dorothy; four children, Rev. Zelldrick Preston, LaDell Preston, Sr., Claudette Temple (Willie) and Annie Sue Preston; eight grandchildren, LaDell Preston, Jr., Megan Temple, Jabril Temple, Danielle Temple, Jessica Preston, Joshua Temple, Dedrick Mullen and Christopher Peters; four sister-in-laws, Mary Preston, Helen Manuel, Geraldine Crumpton and Gwen Curry; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives & friends.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many accomplishments and contributions of Louis Wesley Preston to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with his many friends in expressing our sorrow at his passing, 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 memorial copy for presentation to the Preston family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 15th day of June, 2012 by:

Honorable Frank Williamson, Alderman 26th Ward

Adopted this the 15th day of June, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen