

RESOLUTION NUMBER 224
Amos McClure

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of longtime St. Louis resident, Amos McClure; and

WHEREAS, Amos McClure was the third of seven children born to Dearies McClure and Marie Crawford McClure on December 18, 1930; and

WHEREAS, Dearies and Marie relocated to St. Louis in 1932 and Mr. McClure attended Dunbar Elementary School and then Washington Tech High School; and

WHEREAS, following high school at the age of 17, Mr. McClure joined the US Army in 1948 and was in the military until he was discharged in 1953. Mr. McClure spent a couple years at the U.S. Armed Forces Institute in Fort Lewis, Washington, and became an expert rifleman. Afterwards, Mr. McClure continued to train at Fort Lewis before going into heavy infantry during the Korean War. He served his country until November 29, 1950, before he was captured and was held as a prisoner of war until he was released on August 8, 1953, "Armistice Day". While he was a POW, he was shot and wounded; but not only was it an amazing blessing that Mr. McClure survived his wounds during his capture; he also survived many of the emotional scars as well; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McClure was the recipient of the Prisoner of War Medal and numerous military medals. He also served with the Honorable Charles Rangle while enlisted in the military; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to the United States, Mr. McClure had one thing on his mind: his sweetheart Norma Jean Southerland. They were married ten days after Amos got released on October 10, 1953. He and his dear Norma Jean celebrated almost 52 years of marriage before she passed on March 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, after his discharge he secured a job in Handford, Washington at the Atomic Energy Commission as a Storage Battery Technician. His second job was at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska working as a civilian for the USAF as a Storage Battery Technician. Later he transferred back to St. Louis as Service Manager and Electrician for E. H. Boyer, Inc. he remained as a Service Manager and Electrician until his retirement in 2004; and

WHEREAS, from 1977 to 1988, he was the Founder and President of the St. Louis Jazz Society, Inc. The St. Louis Jazz Society, Inc.'s primary function was sponsoring concerts throughout the St. Louis and East Saint Louis areas. While functioning, they contracted and interviewed such artists as Art Blakey, Ben Jones, Freddie Hubbard, Buddy Rich, Yusef Lateef, Dexter Gordon, Earl Fatherhines, Pepper Adams, and Ahmad Jamal. At the time of his presidency, Mr. McClure also moonlighted and became the Chief Engineer at KBDY FM Radio in the Montgomery Hyde Park Community of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McClure was the father of Kenneth Eugene McClure (Vanessa), Amos McClure, Jr., Phyllis Ann McClure Battle (Mark), Janet Marie McClure Morris and Kevin Gerard McClure.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Amos McClure 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 McClure family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor

Introduced on the 7th day of October, 2011 by:

Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward

Adopted this the 7th day of October, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen