

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 297**

**Ronald J. Colbert Sr.**

**WHEREAS**, we pause in our deliberations to note the passing of Ronald J. Colbert Sr.; and

**WHEREAS**, Ronald J. Colbert Sr. was born September 14, 1943 at Homer G. Phillips Hospital. He died February 13, 2010 at home. Ronald was the son of Grimm Phipps and Elizabeth Hennings Colbert. He was the stepson of Thomas Colbert. After losing his mother at the age of 3, he was raised in Jackson Tennessee by his Uncle and Aunt Alberta and Augusta Greer. He accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior at an early age. At the age of 12, he returned to St. Louis and was raised by his grandfather Savannah Hennings and Aunt Lenora Hennings Paige. He also received support and guidance from uncles James and Robert Hennings and aunts Velma Hennings and Dorothy Hennings; and

**WHEREAS**, Ronald graduated from Hadley Technical High School in 1962. He was senior class president and salutatorian. He also received a Danforth "I Dare You" award. He was awarded art scholarships to Washington University at St. Louis and Lincoln University. He attended Lincoln University. He started a sign painting company, *Colbert Signs*, at the age of 17; and

**WHEREAS**, Ronald married high school sweetheart Betty Scott in 1963. During that same year, he began as a trainee machinist at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft. He retired from McDonnell Douglas in 1997 having advanced to a final assembly inspector; and

**WHEREAS**, Ronald was active in many church and community organizations including Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Council, Block Unit #766cd, and past president of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School Board. He was a member of the International Association Machinists and Aerospace Workers District 837. His interests included fishing, camping, water color painting, science, and country music and the blues; and

**WHEREAS**, he is survived by his wife Betty Colbert and three of his children Ronald Colbert II (Kareemeh), attorney Nicole Colbert-Botchway (Ibrahim), and physician Dr. Susan Colbert –Threats (Travis). He was preceded in death by his daughter actress and college professor Lisa Colbert; and

**WHEREAS**, Ronald will be laid to rest Friday February 19<sup>th</sup> 2010 at Laurelwood Cemetery. There will be a Visitation at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church-Brentwood, 2618 Brentwood 63144, from 9-11 a.m. followed by a funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. All funeral arrangements are being handled by Reliable Funeral Home, 3958 Washington St. Louis 63108.

**WHEREAS**, he is also survived by eight grandchildren and step grandchildren: Matthew Colbert P. Threats, Mary Elizabeth C. Threats, Ismail N. Botchway, Alexis R. Colbert, Kareemah R.R. Snow-Colbert, Yahshua I. Colbert, Christian M. Allen, and Khaliq R. Snow. He is also survived by sister in law Barbara Scott (Willie); cousins Dorothy Grice, Sylvia Hennings, James Hennings Jr., Dennis Bond, Pamela Bond, Allie B. Greer, Leon Womack, Belinda Crawford; Aunts Velma (Hennings ) Peay and Lenora Paige (David); and many other relatives and family friends. He will be greatly missed.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember Ronald J. Colbert Sr. and we join with his many friends in expressing our sorrow at her 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 Colbert family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 19th day of February, 2010 by:

**Honorable Freeman Bosley, Sr., Alderman 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward**

Adopted this the 19th day of February, 2010 as attested by:

---

David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

---

Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen