

RESOLUTION NUMBER 274
Benjamin Lawrence Berry Jr.

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of lifelong St. Louis resident, Benjamin Lawrence Berry Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Lawrence Berry Junior was born on February 11, 1950 in St. Louis, Missouri to the union of Benjamin Lawrence and Jacqueline Sue Berry. Both parents and his eldest sister Sonya (Hill) Carslick preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin was educated in the St. Louis Public School System and graduated from Charles Sumner High School in 1968. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy and retired in 1979 with the rank of Electricians Mate Third Class. Later, Benjamin attended ITT Technical Institute and received an Associates Degree in Electronics; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord at an early age. In the summer of 1991, he joined Bethlehem Lutheran Church and became actively engaged in the rebuilding of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and was a driving force in maintaining the facility. He wore many hats in the church during his 17 plus years of devoted service. Benjamin served as president of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Board of Directors. Also, he served as Vice Chairman of the Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis. He was president of Better Living Communities. Ben was in many ministries and he provided outstanding leadership to the Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery Committee. Benjamin was a faithful servant and an ardent supporter of the Lord. He gave willingly to the church and the community; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin was very loving with his family and friends always there to lend a helping hand. Often the confidant, his words were always loving and spoken with affection. He was a very compassionate, intelligent man who willingly shared his wealth of knowledge. He loved golf, fishing, and sports; he was always ready for discussion on any topic; he had a gift for gab; and

WHEREAS, He was united in holy matrimony to his loving wife Barbara (Bobbie) Ewing-Davis on April 29, 1995. Benjamin and Barbara sustained each other in a loving marriage that lasted 13 wonderful years; and

WHEREAS, he was a devoted husband, father, brother, grandfather, uncle and friend. On December 23, 2008 at 10:40 a.m. Benjamin went peacefully home to be with the Lord; and

WHEREAS, he leaves to cherish his memory, his only child, Benjamin Lawrence Berry III, two step sons Eric (Sheryl) Davis and Bernard Ewing; six grandchildren, Chelsey, Autumn, Eric, Kamden, Nicholas, and Benjamin Lawrence Berry IV; one sister, Shelia Hill of Chicago Illinois; one brother, Clifton (Diane) Berry of St. Louis, Missouri, one great aunt, Susa Mae Sweeney of Louisville, Kentucky and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

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 Benjamin Lawrence Berry Jr. 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 Berry family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor

Introduced on the 29th day of December, 2008 by:

Honorable Freeman Bosley, Sr., Alderman 3rd Ward

Adopted this the 29th day of December, 2008 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen

