

BY THE COMMON COUNCIL

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Lt. Col. Edmund Mackett, who passed from this life on February 6, 2015.

WHEREAS,

LT. COL. EDMUND MACKETT

passed from this life on February 6, 2015 at the age of 85, and services were held in his honor at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.; and

WHEREAS, *As a 1947 graduate of Rufus King High School in Milwaukee, Ed Mackett joined the newly-christened U.S. Air Force, launching himself into a 20-year career that would see him become one of the nation's most decorated fighter pilots, with 113 combat missions logged in the Vietnam conflict and assignments to posts that included Italy, Germany and command of a nuclear-armed fighter base in Taiwan; and*

WHEREAS, *With a reputation for his selfless dedication to family and loved ones, Ed Mackett met his wife Lu when he was still serving in the Air Force and she was a globetrotting flight attendant, and dated her by taking a fighter jet to meet her wherever she happened to be on layover in a given weekend; and*

WHEREAS, *Unable to leave the skies behind following his retirement from the Air Force, Ed Mackett worked as an airline pilot and flight manager in countries that included Egypt, Guatemala, Panama and Jordan, serving as the City of Milwaukee's unofficial "ambassador of the airways" by striking up conversation with anyone who would listen to him extoll the virtues of his hometown; and*

WHEREAS, *Decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal, distinguished unit citations, presidential citations and the Taiwanese government's Command Pilot Wings, Ed Mackett's last wish was to be remembered by the City of Milwaukee as an eminent son who had made his hometown proud, and, selected as a 2008 Distinguished Alumnus of Rufus King High School and acknowledged by the city for his great deeds, he has done just that, and more; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Lt. Col. Edmund Mackett, celebrates the many accomplishments of this distinguished airman and mourns with deep sorrow the passing of this great Milwaukeean; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Lt. Col. Edmund Mackett.*

Introduced and approved on March 3, 2015 by all members of the Common Council: Michael J. Murphy, Ashanti Hamilton, Joe Davis, Sr., Nik Kovac, Robert J. Bauman,

Jim Bohl, Milele A. Coggs, Willie C. Wade, Robert G. Donovan, Robert W. Puente, Joe Dudzik, José G. Pérez, Terry L. Witkowski, Tony Zielinski and Russell W. Stamper, II.