

RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE LATE  
LEONARD JEROME KAPLAN

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2015, this community lost one of its outstanding community leaders with the death of the late Leonard Jerome Kaplan at the age of 86;

WHEREAS, Kaplan, a native of High Point, North Carolina, graduated from High Point University after leaving the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to run the family janitorial supply company business;

WHEREAS, Kaplan served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War;

WHEREAS, upon his return, Kaplan built Kay Chemical Company into a worldwide supplier of cleaning chemicals and, in 1996, merged with Ecolab where the company maintained its location in Greensboro;

WHEREAS, through the creation of the TOLEO Foundation Kaplan and his wife, Tobee pursued a commitment to philanthropy in education, women and children's issues, homelessness, hunger, healthcare and human services, the arts, civil rights, and quality of life for the greater community in general, and the Jewish Community in particular;

WHEREAS, Kaplan was a driving force in projects ranging from the creation of the Moses Cone Cardiac Unit, the founding of Camp Raman Darom and the School of Public Administration for Leadership at High Point University;

WHEREAS, he helped found agencies such as Jewish Family Services and the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro and assisted in the construction of new facilities for the Greensboro Jewish Federation, The Women's Resource Center, Habitat for Humanity, B'nai Shalom Day School, Greensboro Day School, Beth David Synagogue, Temple Emanuel and UNC Hillel;

WHEREAS, Kaplan was a supporter of United Way and Urban Ministries and funded food programs in needy areas in Eastern Europe and Israel;

WHEREAS, as a contributor to the arts in Greensboro, Kaplan contributed to the Tanger Center for the Performing Arts, Greensboro Symphony, EMF and Triad Stage whose Pyrlle Theater is named for his late mother-in-law Pyrlle Gibson;

WHEREAS, Kaplan created the Wealth and Giving Forum and The Alliance for Global Good to address international global needs;

WHEREAS, Kaplan was the recipient of an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary, Greensboro Chamber of Commerce's Thomas Z. Osborne Citizen of the Year Award, Greensboro Jewish Federation's Benjamin Cone, Sr. Leadership Award and the 2014 NCCJ Citation Award;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to express its sense of loss and its sincere appreciation and gratitude for the many years of dedicated public service rendered by Leonard Jerome Kaplan the outstanding contributions he has made to the community, and the legacy he leaves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

1. That the City Council hereby expresses, on behalf of the citizens of Greensboro, a deep sense of loss and a feeling of respect and gratitude for the life of Leonard Jerome Kaplan.
2. That a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the family of the late Leonard Jerome Kaplan as a symbol of the gratitude of the people of Greensboro for his many contributions to this community.