

RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE LATE CALVIN “CAL” IRVIN

WHEREAS, on November 25, 2017, this community lost one of its outstanding community leaders with the passing of the late Calvin “Cal” Irvin;

WHEREAS, Irvin, attended public schools in Orange, New Jersey where he played baseball, football, and basketball; was named to the all-state team in basketball for two years; and was the first African American to serve as the commencement speaker at Orange High School;

WHEREAS, upon graduation he received a scholarship from Morgan State University to play basketball and football before transferring to the University of Illinois where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree;

WHEREAS he went on to receive a Master’s of Arts from Columbia University, and further studied at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro;

WHEREAS, Irvin was a recreation supervisor in the Department of Recreation in East Orange, New Jersey before beginning his career teaching and coaching;

WHEREAS, throughout his career he was a teacher and coach at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina; a coach at Atkins High School in Winston Salem, North Carolina and continued his career at North Carolina A&T State University (NC A&T);

WHEREAS, during his 35 year career at NC A&T, 18 of which were spent as the Aggies Head Coach he won five CIAA championships, had 18 players become professional basketball players; was the only coach from an HBCU to win a national championship, and the first MEAC championship. On a national level, the university was the first black college to earn a bid to the NCAA Small College Final Four Division Tournament;

WHEREAS, after his career in coaching Irvin served for seven years as the Athletic Director, as Chair of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, and upon his retirement from NC A&T, he worked as a scout for the NBA Charlotte Hornets and later as a scout for college officials for the NFL;

WHEREAS, Irvin was the recipient of numerous honors and awards which include but are not limited to honors from the North Carolina Hall of Fame, Guilford County College Hall of Fame, Guilford Wall of Fame and National Association of College Athletic Directors Hall of Fame. He also received Hall of Fame honors from NC A&T, MEAC, CIAA, Johnson C. Smith University, Morgan State University and two in the State of New Jersey;

WHEREAS, a scholarship was established in his honor and NC A&T dedicated the Aggie Basketball Court in his honor in 2006;

WHEREAS, Irvin was a member of many professional and civic organizations that included the North Carolina Hall of Fame Board of Directors, North Carolina Coaches

Association and National Collegiate Athletic Association of Basketball Coaches; Treasurer of the Tourist and Convention Bureau, member the Greensboro Coliseum Commission, Greensboro Sports Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, Human Relations Commission, Hayes Taylor YMCA Board, President of Trinity AME Zion Church Men's Fellowship Forum, member of the Board of United Way, life member of the NAACP, a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to express its sense of loss and sincere appreciation and gratitude for the many years of dedicated public service rendered by Calvin "Cal" Irvin, 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 wishes to express its condolences, and offer its sincere appreciation and gratitude for his many years of dedicated public service. His legacy will be remembered by the outstanding contributions he has made to the community.
2. That a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the family of the late Calvin "Cal" Irving as a symbol of the gratitude of the people of Greensboro for his many contributions to this community.