

RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF  
THE LATE (RETIRED) LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSEPH NATHANIEL CLARK

WHEREAS, the late Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Joseph Nathaniel Clark born on March 24, 1934 in Miami Gardens, Florida, passed away on October 26, 2020 in Greensboro, North Carolina;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark attended Miami, Florida, public schools, and as a teen became known for his presentation of "If" by Rudyard Kipling (a poem written circa 1895, a literary example of Victorian-era stoicism) while at Booker T. Washington High School;

WHEREAS continuing his education Mr. Clark graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology/History from Hampton Institute on an Oratorical Scholarship in 1953; and later pursued a Master of Science Degree in Business Management from State University of New York;

WHEREAS, his college participation included Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Student Christian Association, Men's Congress, National Honor Society, Student Government, Scabbard and Blade Military Fraternity and the Boxing Team;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark was spiritually active during his life which included attendance at Greater Bethel AME Church; later joining New Light Missionary Baptist Church in 1986; and maintained many church affiliations throughout the years;

WHEREAS, inspired by the ROTC, Mr. Clark entered the United States Army in 1957; served two tours in Korea; served one tour in Vietnam; was stationed in Japan, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Greenland, Germany, France, Switzerland, Panama and the Bahama Islands as well as in the United States; and received several military awards and decorations during his 21 years of service including the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and National Defense Service Medal;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark retired from military service in 1977 but continued his service to the United States Government as civilian Chief Officer of Procurement, Traffic Management Command, Director of Contracting at the Sealift Command in Bayonne, New Jersey; taught at Jackson Middle School, Greensboro, NC; and held numerous private industry and county government positions;

WHEREAS, having a passion to serve the community, Mr. Clark focused on mentoring African American boys; volunteered and supported organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters of America where he held positions of President, Vice President of the Advisory Board and Chairman of the Volunteer Recruit Committee, Liaison to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; was lovingly referred to as "Daddy C" when he took six "Hill Boys" and "Samantha" under his wing, relationships that lasted for over thirty years; and served as a board member at Youth Focus, a United Way agency;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark also volunteered his Sunday afternoon to play chess, read and write personal correspondence for the elderly at various local assisted living centers; and spent time reminiscing with military veterans at the Veterans Agency Hospital;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark was honored with WFMY-TV's "2 Those Who Care Service to the Piedmont Award" in 2003; received the 2009 African American Leadership Distinguished Service and Achievement Award; held memberships and affiliations with the Retired Officers Association; Kappa Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (with fifty years of service); Greensboro Tarheel Chorus; Hampton Alumnae Association; National Association of Purchasing Management; Purchasing Managers Association of the Carolinas and Virginia; and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America;

WHEREAS, Mr. Clark will be remembered for his love of family; for fishing and boating; and for helping young people gain an appreciation for such; and

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 the many years of dedicated public service of the late retired Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Nathaniel Clark. His legacy will be remembered by the outstanding contributions he made.
2. That a copy of this resolution will be presented to the family of the retired Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Nathaniel Clark as a symbol of the gratitude of the people of Greensboro for his devoted support and contributions to the community.