

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 060747)

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Memory of Paul Richardson, Renowned Organist of the Philadelphia Phillies.

WHEREAS, Paul Richardson, who entertained more than 70 million Phillies fans over the course of 35 years, died of prostate cancer on October 2, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Paul was born in Wilmington, Delaware and graduated from Wilmington High School in 1950; and

WHEREAS, He studied classical piano as a child and later played the organ at local clubs and restaurants while teaching at the Wilmington Music School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richardson received his big opportunity when current Phillies, Chairman, Bill Giles, hired Paul after he played for employees of the Phillies at a 1969 Christmas party; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richardson began his famed career with the Phillies in 1970 and his music filled the air at the old ball park in North Philadelphia, Connie Mack Stadium, which forever closed its doors at the end of that season; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Stadium became the Phillies new home in 1971 and Paul Richardson and his organ would occupy a booth behind home plate until the Stadium's final days in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Paul played music that inspired the fans and had them clapping with a repertoire that included tarantellas, Irish jigs, country-western, rock and disco; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure at the Vet he was famous for leading the "Charge" by playing the familiar trumpet blast and of course, his rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," which he played during the seventh-inning stretch; and

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WHEREAS, One of Mr. Richardson's fondest memories was when he and his daughter Vicki played the national anthem together, Paul on the organ, Vicki on the piano, at a Family Day game at Veteran's Stadium; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we honor the memory of Paul Richardson, the renowned organist of the Philadelphia Phillies, who inspired the fans at three different venues during a memorable thirty-five year career.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Paul Richardson as evidence of the sincere sentiments of this legislative body.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the fifth of October, 2006.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Patricia Rafferty
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Kenney

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Kenney, Tasco, Rizzo, Goode, Miller, Blackwell, Krajewski, Reynolds Brown, Ramos, Clarke and DiCicco