Legislation Text

File #: 210343, **Version:** 0

Honoring the life and legacy of Donald McGrogan, and recognizing his lifelong dedication to family, friends, and advancing the labor movement of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Donald McGrogan, Jr. was a lifelong Philadelphian, born to Marie Mulgrew Trainor and the late J. Donald McGrogan, Sr, and raised with his siblings, Theresa, Robert, Eileen, Edward, and Christina; and

WHEREAS, Don started his career at the age of 17 at ACME Markets, where a position as Produce Manager opened the doors to UFCW Local 1776; and

WHEREAS, Don was a longtime staff member at Local 1776, serving first as a business agent and ultimately as Executive Vice President until he retired in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Don was known as the "Director of Everything" and his tireless work on behalf of the working people benefited thousands of members throughout Local 1776's region. Don was adored by everyone who met and had the privilege of working with him; and

WHEREAS, Don was a motivated, loyal, hardworking and inspiring warrior. His brothers and sisters in the labor movement have been profoundly changed by knowing and working with him; and

WHEREAS, Don joined the Juanita String Band in 1974 as a banjo player. He became a respected musician and showman, who ultimately led the Aqua String Band as a Hall of Fame Captain and member of the Board of Directors for 25 years, until 2013; and

WHEREAS, Don was an avid hunter and fisherman, and was a charter member of the Tobyhanna Rod and Gun Club; and

WHEREAS, Don had an unending love for his family. He met his wife, Deborah Anne, at St Mary's Hospital and was happily married for 40 years. The light of his life were his three daughters, Kathleen, Kelly, and Deborah. Don is survived by his wife, daughters, and son-in-laws (Daniel, Dennis, and Edward), and his grandchildren; Grace, Danny, Teagan, and Quinn; and

WHEREAS, Don passed away peacefully and surrounded by his family on Sunday, April 4, 2021 at the age of 62 after a living a full, happy life, full of laughter, leadership; and love; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA, Extends their sincere condolences to the family, friends, and labor community on the passing of J. Donald McGrogan, Jr.; now, therefore, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA, Celebrates Don's life, legacy and immeasurable and lasting impact on the labor movement and City of Philadelphia.