



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Adam Wade, born Patrick Henry Wade, grew up in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and graduated from Westinghouse High School in Homewood; and,

WHEREAS, After graduating from Westinghouse High School, Adam, as a lab assistant, served as part of the research team for Dr. Jonas Salk, who invented the polio vaccine; and,

WHEREAS, In 1959, Adam switched to the performing arts and found within himself a smooth, gifted vocalist, having been compared to Johnny Mathis and Nat King Cole. In 1960, he signed with CoEd Records and scored with a string of successes including “*Ruby*” and “*I Can’t Help It*”; and,

WHEREAS, In 1961, three of Adam’s recordings, *Take Good Care of Her*, *As If I Didn’t Know* and *The Writing on the Wall* made the Top 10 in the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Adam also released albums in the United Kingdom in 1962; and,

WHEREAS, In 1975, Adam hosted the CBS game show Musical Chairs, making him the first African-American game show host; and,

WHEREAS, After appearing in the national tour of the musical *Hallelujah, Baby!*, he starred in the production of *Guys and Dolls* in 1978 and hosted the talk show *Mid-Morning LA*. On TV, he was seen in the soap operas “*The Guiding Light*” and “*Search for Tomorrow*” and was a familiar presence on popular black-oriented sitcoms such as “*Sanford & Son*”, “*The Jeffersons*”, “*What’s Happening*” and “*Good Times*”; and,

WHEREAS, Adam also appeared in several movies, including *Gordon’s War*, *Shaft*, *Come Back*, *Charleston Blue*, *Across 100th Street* and *The Education of Sonny Carson*; and,

WHEREAS, After 40 years, he took time out to go back to school and earned his Bachelor of Arts from Lehman College and his Master’s Degree from Brooklyn College;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend, Adam Wade for his contributions to the performing arts ; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Saturday, October 17, 2015, to be “**Adam Wade Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh.