



Text File

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Bill No: 2017-2012, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, on October 31, 1927, Helen Marie Miller Shields was born to Al and Mayme Miller in the Homewood section of the City of Pittsburgh. Little Helen was the middle child, with older sister, the late Peggy Miller LeDonne, and younger sister, Dorothy Miller; and,

WHEREAS, Helen and her family endured the trials and tribulations of the Great Depression, and World War II. Nonetheless, she and her sisters were loved and cared for by her parents and extended family, particularly her Aunts Lucy, Mary, and Ann. She also established life-long friendships with her Holy Rosary High School classmates, most notably, Patricia Smith West and Carolyn Schandler Lennox; and,

WHEREAS, on October 9, 1948, Helen married the late Darby M. Shields and, together, had five children, Darby, Barry, Douglas, Ann, and Gregory, who drove poor Helen to distraction with their never ending antics. Despite her best efforts to teach her children manners, to be courteous to their siblings and others, the kids were slow to embrace her wise counsel. After a great many years of effort, the life lessons she imparted to them seemingly took hold, or at least partially so; and,

WHEREAS, Helen cherishes her visits with her beloved and adorable grandchildren, Rachael, Lynn, Darby, Elliot, Liza, Sava, Dylan and Aidan James, and her great-grandchildren, Edie and Agnes; and;

WHEREAS, Helen's been an avid Pittsburgh Pirates baseball fan, practically living and dying with each Pirate pitch and at-bat over her 90 years. She worships Pirate heroes like Mazeroski, Clemente, Oliver and Stargell. As evidence of her love of all things Pirates Baseball, she traveled to Bradenton, FL, twice (2015, 2017) to attend Pirates Fantasy Camp with her best friends, Marilee Hufnagule and Bert Mendicino, in order to hang out with Pirate greats from the past; and,

WHEREAS, Helen, always a caring and loving person, takes great joy in her abiding faith in her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and loves her parish family at St. Bede's Church in Point Breeze, where she taught Sunday school and still attends Mass regularly; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2017, Helen will celebrate her 90th birthday. Helen has and continues to live a full, vibrant and exciting life. Good fortune has consistently smiled upon her. She's literally traveled the globe, enjoyed its beauty, diverse cultures, and most importantly, made friends with the many people she's encountered. Pittsburgh could not find a better goodwill ambassador.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby convey its best wishes and hearty congratulations to **Helen Shields on the occasion of her 90th Birthday**. We also thank her for her many acts of kindness she's bestowed upon others over the course of her lifetime, making Pittsburgh a much better and happier city in which to live.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in honor of **Helen's 90th Birthday**, the Council does hereby declare, on the occasion of her grand, surprise birthday party, on **Saturday, October 14th, 2017**, to be "**Helen Shields Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh! And, furthermore, confers upon her the honorary title of **Pittsburgh Goodwill Ambassador Plenipotentiary**.