



Text File

Introduced: 1/28/2020

Bill No: 2020-0075, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, George “Mr. Entertainment” Martin was born in Millvale on February 2nd, 1928, into a family with six brothers and sisters. **George** has been a longtime resident of and small-business owner in Pittsburgh’s Northside, where he has also spent 69 years as a member of Allegheny Lodge No. 339 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and,

WHEREAS, George has always been involved in entertainment, from music to theatre. During his service in the U.S. Army, **George** “wielded a trumpet instead of weapons,” and he has always been an avid showman; and,

WHEREAS, George spent two years at Carnegie Tech and upon his graduation, he worked as an independent interior designer. His sense of fashion later led him to the men’s furnishings department at Kaufmann’s in Downtown Pittsburgh; and,

WHEREAS, George left his job at Kaufmann’s when he realized his passion for owning bars where he could entertain his patrons as both a host and an emcee. **George** experienced great success in three bars he owned in his lifetime, but he also continued to bartend at the Elks Lodge, where he has volunteered as a bartender since the 1960s and where he continues to pull a regular shift on Lodge Member nights on most Fridays and Saturdays, making him likely the oldest regularly scheduled bartender in the Pittsburgh area; and,

WHEREAS, George is currently the Chaplain of Allegheny Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and a Past Exalted Ruler (equivalent to Board President). He spent four decades as entertainment chairman, booking concerts and shows for Lodge members, adding further reason for his nickname, “**Mr. Entertainment**”; and,

WHEREAS, on February 2nd, 2020, George celebrated by tending bar at the Lodge on his 92nd birthday. **George’s** goal during the celebration was to serve 92 drinks: one for each year of **George’s** life thus far. The celebration drew a large crowd of Elks members, guests, family, friends and well-wishers. *God Bless America*, led by **George**, was wonderfully performed multiple times; and,

WHEREAS, George’s new birthday tradition will be to tend bar at Allegheny Elks Lodge No. 339 every year on his birthday, serving as many drinks as the number of years he has lived, as long as he is up to the task; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend **George Martin** for his many years of dedication to the entertainment and happiness of his customers and fellow Elks. The Council of the City of Pittsburgh looks forward to future celebrations of **George “Mr. Entertainment” Martin’s** birthdays, and wishes him many more years of happiness doing what he loves to do; and,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh declares Sunday, February 2nd, 2020 to Sunday, February 9th, 2020 to be **George “Mr. Entertainment” Martin Week** in the City of Pittsburgh.