

Returned to:

Heather Klueter  
Deputy Clerk  
City of Troy  
116 E Market St  
Troy IL 62294



**2018R38456**  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
MADISON COUNTY  
12/07/2018 10:05 AM  
AMY M. MEYER, RECORDER  
REC FEE: 27.00  
CO STAMP FEE:  
ST STAMP FEE:  
FF FEE:  
RHSPS FEE:  
# OF PAGES: 4

THIS PAGE BEING ADDED  
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Resolution

27.00

Return to:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 11**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TROY, ILLINOIS,  
HONORING THE LIFE AND MOURNING THE DEATH OF  
MAYOR TOM CARAKER**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer, members of the City Council, staff and employees of the City of Troy, Illinois, are saddened by the death of our dear friend and colleague, Mayor Tom Caraker, who passed away on October 23, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles "Tom" Caraker, Sr., 73, of Troy, was born November 23, 1944 in DuQuoin, IL; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom Caraker was a graduate of Southern Illinois University's School of Environmental Technology with an advanced degree in civil and sanitary environmental engineering and planning, leading a career as a small business owner as former President and Owner of Flo-Systems, Inc., a firm that assists municipalities in infrastructure design of water & wastewater plants, lift stations, and environmental control equipment throughout IL and MO, and where he was in partnership with his late wife Janice; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1979, Tom Caraker joined the Planning Commission of the City of Troy, the start of a long career in public service to the City that was focused on controlled growth through proper planning to prepare Troy for future residential and commercial growth; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 16, 1984, Mayor Ron Criley appointed Tom Caraker to the position of Alderman in Ward IV, replacing Alderman Larry Fuller at the May 7, 1984 meeting of the City Council, noting that Caraker's "expertise in waste water treatment [...] will be helpful to the City of Troy," and on April 2, 1985, Alderman Caraker was elected to a full-term on the Troy City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Alderman Tom Caraker served as Chairman of the Land Use Committee, completed a modernization of the City's subdivision code, defended the existence of the City's Planning Commission, spearheaded improvements to Riggin Road, assisted in the development of Troy Plaza and Schuette's grocery store, as well as introduced the idea of Tax Increment Financing as an economic development tool for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 4, 1997, Tom Caraker was elected Mayor of Troy, and was sworn into the office on May 6, 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, in the next sixteen years, Mayor Tom Caraker managed commercial growth in the City that resulted in a tripling of the City's sales tax revenues, successfully lobbied for more than \$46 million in infrastructure grants from federal, state and county

resources, and oversaw the construction of Walgreens and the new Brad Smith Drive corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Tom Caraker was the driving force behind the \$32 million bridge reconstruction of Route 162 and I-55/70, the widening and resurfacing of Route 162 through Troy, the intersection improvements at Route 40 and Troy-O'Fallon Road, the reconstruction of Lower Marine and Staunton roads, and he held his greatest pride in the rehabilitation of "The Wedge" into the U.S. Senator Paul Simon Memorial Park, the Troy Sesquicentennial Celebration, including the presentation of the Traveling Vietnam Wall, and the initiation of the Bradley Smith Memorial 5K Run; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom Caraker was a former President and longtime supporter of the Troy-Maryville-St. Jacob-Marine Chamber of Commerce, where he spearheaded the creation of the Santa's House tradition and the Troy Citywide garage sale, and helped support Chamber events from the Troy Family Summer of Fun to mimicking Elvis in "Dancing with the Mayors" at the annual auction fundraiser, and was responsible for creating the City-Chamber partnership through the use of tourism funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom Caraker served on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Department of Public Health – Environmental Health Division, as Vice Chair of the Madison County Stormwater Commission, and was a member of the Patriot Guard, the Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors, 3rd Degree Master Mason, Marine Masonic Lodge No. 355, 32nd Degree Scottish Rite, Belleville, a member of the Ainad Shriners, East St. Louis, SAL of Bussong-Mersinger American Legion Post 665, St. Jacob, VFW Post 5691 Auxiliary, Collinsville, a former state director of the Illinois Jaycees, the Illinois & Missouri Water Pollution Control Federation, and briefly served as Tax Collector for Jarvis Township and as a certified Illinois Rural Water & Wastewater Instructor; and

**WHEREAS**, Tom Caraker is survived by his wife, Norma (nee Bequette) Caraker of Troy, IL; son Tom (Stacey Rea) Caraker, Jr., of Bunker Hill, IL, daughter, Kembra Caraker of Pocahontas, IL, grandchildren, Tristian Caraker and Kelly Marie Caraker, and great-grandson Dameon Caraker; stepchildren and extended family & friends; and

**WHEREAS**, the life of Mayor Tom Caraker was celebrated, memorialized, and remembered, through a funeral service on Friday, October 26, 2018, at Richeson Funeral Home, with Rev. Tim Lewis officiating.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TROY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION ONE:** The City Council of the City of Troy, Madison County, Illinois, mourns, along with his wife, children, family and friends, the passing of former Mayor Tom Caraker, and communicate our deepest sympathies to his wife Norma, and his two children, Tom, Jr., and Kembra.

**SECTION TWO:** The City Council of the City of Troy, Madison County, Illinois, provides that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Mayor Tom Caraker as a symbol of our sincere sympathy and thanks for his sixteen years of elected service to the community as Mayor, five years of service as Alderman, and his several years of service on the Planning Commission.

**PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Troy, Madison County, Illinois, approved by the Mayor, and deposited in the office of the City Clerk this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018.


Those voting aye: Henderson, Jackson, Levo, Parthey  
Thompson, Turner, Zarzecki

Those voting nay: \_\_\_\_\_

Those absent: Italiano

APPROVED:

By:

  
ALLEN P. ADOMITE, Mayor  
City of Troy, Illinois

ATTEST:

BY: Jamie Myers by the Clerk  
JAMIE MYERS, Clerk Deputy Clerk  
City of Troy, Illinois

(SEAL)



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