

October 16, 2018  
New Business

**TESTIMONIAL  
RESOLUTIONS  
AND SPECIAL  
PRIVILEGE**

# Testimonial Resolution 38

## In Memoriam

# Ms. Irene McKinley Bonner

**WHEREAS,** We, the members of the **Detroit City Council**, solemnly pause today to recognize and bestow homage upon the late, **Ms. Irene McKinley Bonner**, a beloved mother, sister, foster mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend to many, who was granted her angel wings on September 25, 2018; and

**WHEREAS,** Born on July 1, 1939, in Birmingham, Alabama, **Irene McKinley**, affectionately known as "Titti," was the seventh child born to Ida and Leroy McKinley. **Irene** accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age, under the ministry of Rev. Van Horn at Lively Hope Baptist Church in Pratt City, Alabama. She attended South Pratt Elementary School and graduated from Westin Olin High School; and

**WHEREAS,** While living in Alabama, **Irene** met her first love, Charles Bonner, who she married later in life. She loved him deeply and the couple was blessed with their daughter, Sharon. **Irene's** strong will and independent personality led her to relocate to Chicago, Illinois, to pursue employment. With her strong love and appreciation of music, **Irene** joined the legendary Thompson Community Singers choir. Being a member of the choir led her to move to Detroit, Michigan; and

**WHEREAS,** **Irene** was an incredible mother to her nine children: Sharon, Denise, Deborah, Lashawn, Crystal, Bernard, Antonio, Wayne and Andre. She also was a foster mom to 32 children over a period of 34 years, providing them with love and support. **Irene** encouraged all of her children to follow their dreams and believe in God. Affectionately referred to as "Momma" by the entire family, she created a bond and tradition that was fundamental in bringing the family together. "Momma" **Irene** was committed to family, near and far. She traveled frequently to Birmingham, Alabama, to visit nieces and nephews. **Irene** was determined to attend every celebration. She was always willing to listen and provided 'pearls of wisdom' to those she encountered. **Irene** loved cooking and often hosted extravagant holiday celebrations where the house was embellished with décor to match the season. Music flowing, aromas of signature dishes, and laughter was always something that could be found during this time. **Irene** also had a flair for interior design and would frequently change and update the layout of her home; and

**WHEREAS,** A woman of strong faith, **Irene** was a member of Hampton Memorial Baptist Church from 1976 to 1985. She later joined Calvary Church of God in Christ in 1985 until 2005. **Irene** supported her daughters and son-in-law's ministries – Bethesda Temple Apostolic and Souls for Christ Deliverance Center, from 2006 to 2010. From 2010 until her transition, **Irene** was a member of Christian Tabernacle; and

**WHEREAS,** One of **Irene's** most significant relationships was the bond established with Bernard Davis Sr., father to four of her children. He remained a close and supportive friend throughout their relationship. **Irene McKinley Bonner** was the anchor of her family and a shining example of motherhood. The lessons she taught, the example she set, the wisdom she imparted, made a significant impact in the lives of others. **Ms. Irene McKinley Bonner** has been a good servant and ensured that the values and traditions by which she lived, would exist in the hearts of those she cherished for years to come. Her legacy will live on through the many lives she touched. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** That the **Detroit City Council** and office of Council President **Brenda Jones**, hereby extends our deepest sympathy and joins with family and friends to celebrate the life of **Ms. Irene McKinley Bonner**. She will be greatly missed.


  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

  
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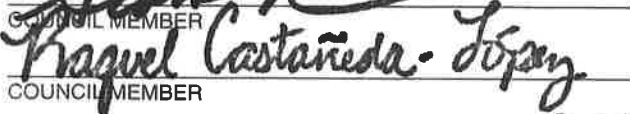
  
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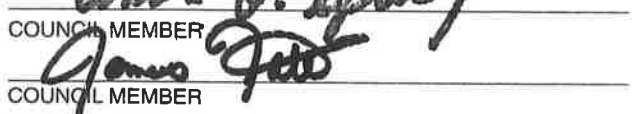
  
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October 6, 2018

DATE

# Testimonial Resolution

# 39

IN MEMORIAM

## Stevan Curtis Miller

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**WHEREAS,** Stevan Curtis Miller was born in Detroit on July 26, 1955, to parents Robert and Anna Lee Miller. He and his family lived on Detroit’s west side, where he attended Detroit Public Schools and served as an altar boy at St. Luke’s Catholic Church. After receiving his diploma from Mumford High School in 1973, he attended college for a year then later attended and graduated from the Detroit Police Department Academy B Class in 1977.


**WHEREAS,** Steve’s first assignment was at the 11th Precinct. It was at the 11th Precinct that Steve became skillful at extracting information from sources. He utilized that skill when he transferred to the 14th Precinct and then to Gang Squad in 1986, earning his nickname “Pitbull” or “Pit”, known for his tenacity in getting criminals off the streets. In 1994, while working in the Headquarters Bureau, Steve was assigned to the Violent Crimes Task Force working with the FBI to take down a notorious B&E gang responsible for conducting the most violent home invasions in the city’s history. As the investigation reached its six month mark, Steve was credited with single-handedly taking down the crime ring’s leader in a vicious gun fight featured on “The FBI Files: “Forced Entry” (Season 6, Episode 17).


**WHEREAS,** Steve also pursued a dual career in Executive Security. He worked for decades (on his own and with Atlanta-based Executive Services Security Consulting) protecting some leading names in entertainment—Aretha Franklin, Patti LaBelle, Sinbad, Luther Vandross, Mike Epps, Alicia Keys, Judge Greg Mathis, Quenton Perry, and Toni Braxton just to name a few. Steve was also granted many awards, including Perfect Attendance Awards, numerous Letters of Appreciation, Medal of Valor Award, and Meritorious Awards.


**WHEREAS,** In August of 1997, Steve married the love of his life, Malkia and their family soon expanded with the births of Donovan and Tristan joining big brother Stevan Jr. His passion and commitment to Malkia and the kids were primary. Steve cherished his wife. Malkia was Steve’s soulmate. Their personalities mirrored each other tremendously drawing them closer each day as they knew how to promote each other’s strengths when life’s challenges came along. Steve was also a dedicated and extremely proud dad who always shared his children’s accomplishments complete with supporting photos. He *made* time to guide and support their endeavors, whether it was helping to coach Donovan’s AAU hoop dreams or Tristan’s tennis triumphs. He was so very proud of Steve Jr.’s academic accomplishments at U of M and his recent job promotion at Quicken Loans. Steve loved his children and his newest baby girl, granddaughter Melina.


**WHEREAS,** Steve leaves to cherish his amazing legacy his beloved wife Malkia; his wonderful sons Stevan Jr. and Donovan; his precious daughter Tristan; his granddaughter and joy Melina; his “first wife” Conway; his “girlfriend” Rico; and his “special little brother” Damon. He also leaves to cherish his loving memory his sisters Carol Wright, Andrea (Greg), brothers Robert Jr., Darryle (Shevawn), Aaron (Heather), sisters Leslie (Mason), and Tiffany, mother and father-in-law Toni and Ronald Booker, sister-in-law Nzinga (Robert) Carbin, and nephew/best friend Craig (Cindy) Miller.


**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Office of City Council President Pro Tempore Mary Sheffield and the Detroit City Council hereby on this 12th day of October that this resolution endure as a permanent record of respect and admiration, and that a suitably-enrolled copy be presented to the family of Stevan Curtis Miller.


  
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 COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM


  
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 COUNCIL MEMBER

October 12, 2018

DATE

IN LOVING MEMORIAM FOR *Linda Faye Woodard* September 1, 1949 – October 5, 2018  
SUBMITTED BY COUNCILMAN GABE LELAND

**WHEREAS** Linda Faye Woodard served faithfully as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ambassadors for Christ Church. As a minister and administrator at Ambassadors for Christ Church, Linda worked tirelessly, often going above and beyond with high energy and confidence. Linda knew the power of God and served Him with honor; **and**

**WHEREAS** Linda was the fourth child of ten children who grew up in Detroit with six brothers (three of whom preceded her in death) and three sisters. Linda’s late parents Richard and Veola Thomas, Sr. raised their children with “*can do*” attitudes and were enthusiastic advocates of high achievement. Linda matriculated through Detroit Public Schools graduating from Central High School and later earning a Master’s of Arts Degree with a major in Counseling from Wayne State University; **and**

**WHEREAS** Linda was a devoted mother to her two children Yvette and Leonard “Man” Coleman, Jr. and a loving and considerate grandmother to her many grandchildren; **and**

**WHEREAS** Linda dedicated 38 years of service to Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) working in its Nursing Department assisting innumerable students achieve their nursing goals. She was a dedicated member of the West Outer Drive Community Association. Linda established *Stepping Up*, a women’s support group, and lovingly committed 17 years helping women in recovery accomplish their financial dreams. After retirement from WCCCD, Linda established *Key Word Counseling Services* and offered her expertise and experience giving direction and strength to men, women and families suffering under the familial devastation caused by addiction. In total, Linda dedicated 25 years to helping men and women who were struggling with addiction. Linda lived by the words, “*I can do all things through Christ*”.  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED** That the Office of Councilman Gabe Leland and the Detroit City Council expresses their deepest sympathy and hereby join family and friends in celebrating the life of *Linda Faye Woodard*. We honor Linda for her commitment to service and the cultural growth of Detroit families. We applaud her for many achievements and extend our admiration and appreciation for the dedication and for her vision for the community. May the memories of her love and faithfulness be remembered and continue to fill the hearts of many that love her.

10.16.18 - TCB