

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 304091

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE SEP 16 2008

WHEREAS, James Howard and Kathleen Patricia Atkinson's love affair began on July 11, 1938, when Howard bought a soft drink from Kathleen at a corner neighborhood store and hung around for the rest of the afternoon; that evening, Howard and Kathleen went on their first date to the beach, where Howard explained to Kathleen how radio signals work, as they watched the sunset; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 1938 Howard Atkinson went to Kathleen McVeigh's house for dinner, where they spent quite a while on the front porch swing; upon Howard's departure, he kissed Kathleen for the first time like she had never been kissed before; and

WHEREAS, Howard Atkinson and Kathleen McVeigh spent the rest of the summer together and when school began, they ate lunch together every day; Howard would wad up his lunch bag and throw it into the trash can, which impressed Kathleen; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1939, Howard Atkinson graduated from San Diego High School and went on to attend a business/vocational school until he decided to get a job with San Diego Office Supply so he could save up for an engagement ring for Kathleen; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 1940, Howard Atkinson and Kathleen McVeigh became engaged; without a formal proposal, Howard took Kathleen to Kay Jewelers where they chose the perfect ring; Kathleen's mother gave her a hope chest and several showers were thrown to celebrate the engagement; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1941, Kathleen McVeigh graduated from San Diego High School and focused on planning her and Howard's wedding; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 1941, Howard Atkinson and Kathleen McVeigh were married at Brooklyn Heights Presbyterian Church, located at 30th and Fir Streets; the wedding was largely attended with over three-hundred guests, three bridesmaids, a maid of honor, three groomsmen and a best man; that evening, Howard and Kathleen drove to Long Beach to spend their first night together, then on to Lake Arrowhead, which they quickly left due to inadequate accommodations; and

WHEREAS, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson began their married life together in their own home on 30th Street, between Lincoln and Polk Avenues; and

WHEREAS, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson moved into a larger house with Jack and Billie McVeigh, who they spent most of their free time with; Kathleen and Billie were washing dishes while Howard and Jack were playing croquet when they all heard on the radio that Pearl Harbor had been bombed, on December 7, 1941; Howard immediately joined the Army Air Corps; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 1942 Howard Atkinson left to serve the country in World War II, where he served as an officer in the 21st Fighter Squadron in the 9th United States Air Force; Howard's duties included administration of the Mess Hall, Supply Officer and assistant to higher officers; he landed at Normandy twenty-nine days after D-Day and was in Europe for a little over two-and-a-half years; throughout his military career, Howard rose to the rank of 1st Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, while still serving in the United States, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson welcomed their first child – James Michael Atkinson – into the world on July 7, 1943; four month's after Michael's birth, Howard was assigned to serve in Europe and did not return until Michael was almost three-years-old; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 1949, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson's second child – Eileen Patricia Atkinson – was born; back from the war for good, Howard was finally able to watch one of his children grow and develop from birth, experiencing first steps, first words and first smiles; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 1951, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson's third child – Jackie Marie Atkinson – was born, two days after Kathleen's birthday and only twenty-three months after Eileen was born; and

WHEREAS, Howard Atkinson worked for San Diego Office Supply for thirty-four years and then at Office Center for eight years, before he went back to San Diego Office Supply for thirteen more years, where he served as a member of the San Diego Optimists Club on the Board of Directors and as President in 1961; in 1997, Howard began working for Hillcrest Stationers; Howard continues to work every day and has now been working sixty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, after Michael was born, Kathleen Atkinson worked as a switchboard operator in a construction business; upon Howard's return from war, she became a housewife until after Eileen and Jackie were born, when she began a day nursery, where she cared for ten to twelve children, in addition to her own three; Kathleen ran the nursery for eighteen years, until she went to work at the telephone company after Jackie graduated from high school, where she worked as a service representative for fourteen years; and

WHEREAS, for Howard and Kathleen Atkinson's 40th Anniversary, their children – Michael, Eileen and Jackie – threw them a surprise party on August 2, 1981; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 1983 and on June 14, 1985, Howard and Kathleen Atkinson's two favorite grandchildren – April Marie and Brandon Lee Chesebro – were born, respectively; Kathleen soon retired from the telephone company to care for her new grandchildren; and

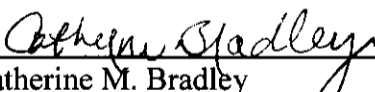
WHEREAS, to commemorate Howard and Kathleen's 65th Anniversary, Michael, Eileen and Jackie organized a surprise wedding renewal ceremony at Jackie's house, presided by S.K. Emery, where Howard and Kathleen recited the exact same vows from their wedding; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby congratulate Howard and Kathleen Atkinson for seventy wonderful years full of love and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that July 11, 2008, be and is hereby proclaimed to be, ⁰⁸
"HOWARD AND KATHLEEN ATKINSON DAY" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By


Catherine M. Bradley
Chief Deputy City Attorney

CMB:als
08/22/08
Or.Dept:Council-Atkins
R-2009-182

(R-2009-182)

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of SEP - 9 2008.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 9.16.08
(date)


JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

SEP 17 2008