

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Councillor Coates

In City Council,
March 15, 1971

WHEREAS: -

On March 11, 1971 the news dispatches from Lagos, Nigeria conveyed the sad news of the death of Whitney M. Young, Jr. at the age of forty-nine, and

WHEREAS: -

Whitney M. Young, Jr. was the Executive Director of the National Urban League and a leader in the fight for Human Rights for the past decade who concentrated his efforts in that movement on securing employment for Blacks in every industry and business in the United States of America, and

WHEREAS: -

Whitney M. Young, Jr. was a leader in the struggle for human equality and was among the most polished and articulate of spokesmen for Black Americans who was equally at home in the corporate offices of Wall Street and in the inner sanctums of Washington, and a person who had earned the respect and confidence of the most powerful men in the nation, and

WHEREAS: -

Whitney M. Young, Jr. after graduation from Kentucky State College at the age of nineteen, studied at Massachusetts Institute of Technology prior to his entry into the service in World War II, during which service he served as an intermediary between whites and blacks in the service and thereby laid the foundation for his future work in the National Urban League, and

WHEREAS: -

After his discharge from the service he obtained his Master's Degree at the University of Minnesota in 1954 and became Dean of the School of Social Work at Atlanta University prior to his election as Executive Director of the National

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Urban League in 1961, which under his supervision grew to ninety-eight branches throughout the nation with a budget of forty-five million dollars and a staff of twelve hundred people, and

WHEREAS: -

Whitney M. Young, Jr. was characterized as a moderate in the Black Movement, a characterization which he disliked, stating that in the Human Rights Movement every one is a radical, that he could accept compromise only on issues but never on principles, and

WHEREAS: -

His advice was sought by all Presidents for the past decade for his outstanding contribution to the Black Movement in America and for his ability to reason with the leaders of industry and business and opened the door for the employment of the Black community in every facet of American life, therefore be it

RESOLVED: -

That the City Council in session assembled on March 15, 1971 joins with his family and friends and does hereby express its sincere sympathy to the members of Mr. Young's family in their bereavement, and be it further

RESOLVED: -

That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be forwarded to the family of Whitney M. Young, Jr.

In City Council

March 15, 1971

Adopted unanimously by
a rising vote

Paul E. Healy

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ORDER

Resolutions - Whitney M.Young,Jr.

March 15, 1971

Mr. Coates