



City of Cambridge

95.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 1, 1998

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Donald J. Laing, Sr. on May 28, 1998 at the age of seventy-six; and

WHEREAS: Donald was a graduate of Cambridge Latin; and

WHEREAS: Donald entered the Army Air Corp in 1942 where he flew 46 combat missions and was the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation; and

WHEREAS: Donald was an instructor at the Air University in Alabama; served as a selectman in the Town of Braintree; was a board member of the MBTA Advisory Board and served as a Personnel Board Chairman; and

WHEREAS: Donald was sportsman, a golfer, taught CCD classes, was a lector and member of the Holy Name Society; and

WHEREAS: Donald's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his daughter Elizabeth E.; his son Donald J. Jr.; his brother Robert E.; his sister Phyllis Fleming; his granddaughter, his nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS: Donald will be sorely missed by all he touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Donald J. Laing, Sr. at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Laing family on behalf of the entire City Council.

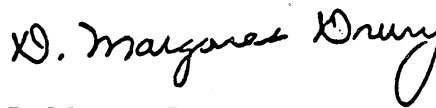
In City Council June 1, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Councillor Yorney
Vice Mayor Galluccio
Councillor Sullivan
Councillor Montafillon

all

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WHEREAS: Donald's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his/~~her~~ surviving family, his daughter Elizabeth E., his son Donald J. Jr., his brother Robert E., his sister Phyllis Fleming, his granddaughter, his nieces and nephews

and

WHEREAS: Donald will be sorely missed by all he/~~she~~ touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Donald J. Laing Sr. at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitable engrossed copy of this resolution to the Donald J. Laing Sr. family on behalf of the entire City Council.

Donald Laing Sr., 76, ex-Braintree selectman

Donald J. Laing Sr. of Braintree, a former Boston Herald advertising executive, Braintree selectman and decorated World War II veteran, died Thursday at Braintree Hospital after a long illness. He was 76.

Born and raised in Boston, he attended the city's schools and graduated from Cambridge Latin School, now Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. He moved to Braintree in 1950.

In 1942, Mr. Laing enlisted in the Air Corps as a flying cadet.

He served with the U.S. Army Air Corps, flying 46 combat missions before being wounded twice. He retired from the Army Reserves as a major in 1957.

Mr. Laing received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with two clusters, and a Presidential Unit Citation for service with the 355th Fighter Group in Europe.

He was also an Air Force squadron commander, a test pilot, and an instructor at Air University in Selma, Ala.

Mr. Laing flew Mustangs and Thunderbolts.

He began working for the Boston Herald in the 1950s and retired in 1985.

Mr. Laing was the longest-serving Braintree selectman in the town's history. He held office for five consecutive terms between 1968 and 1983. He served as chairman for several terms, and retired in 1983.

He was also a six-year member of the MBTA Advisory Board, a four-year member and chairman of the Braintree Incinerator Study committee, a member of the capital planning committee and a trustee of the former Norfolk County Hospital.

Mr. Laing was a town meeting member for 30 years, and served as Personnel Board chairman.

He ran for a state repre-



DONALD J. LAING SR.

sentative seat as a Republican in 1970 and served one term in the House on the local affairs and veterans' committee. He did not seek re-election.

An avid sportsman and golfer, Mr. Laing served on the Braintree Municipal Golf Course Operating Committee for a decade, and was made a life member of the club. He was a member of the Marshfield Country Club and the Men's Club at All Souls Episcopal Church.

He and his late wife, B. Olive (Farnam), who died five years ago, were active at the Church of St. Clare, where he taught CCD classes and was a lector and a member of the Holy Name Society. They were co-chairs of the church's Mr. and Mrs. Club.

Mr. Laing leaves a daughter, Elizabeth E. of Boston and Falmouth; a son, Donald J. Jr. of Braintree; a brother, Robert E. of Braintree; a sister, Phyllis Fleming of New Jersey; a granddaughter; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Church of St. Clare in Braintree Highlands.

Burial will be in Blue Hill Cemetery, Braintree.

Arrangements by Leo J. McMaster & Son Funeral Home, Braintree.

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Crossword solution

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Consent Order #95

738R

Councillor Toomey, Vice Mayor Galuccio,
Councillors Sullivan, Triantafillou and
entire membership re: resolution on the
death of Donald J. Laing, Sr.

In City Council June 1, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED