



City of Cambridge

124.

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 1997

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

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of **Louis A. Miele** on July 27, 1997 at the age of 88; and

WHEREAS: Louis was a lifelong resident of Cambridge; he was a taxi driver for Yellow Cab Company for many years; and

WHEREAS: Louis served in the Army during World War II and the Korean War; and

WHEREAS: During World War II, Louis was awarded a Bronze Star for bravery for rescuing seven comrades under fire during an engagement in which only three of the tanks in his unit emerged undamaged; and

WHEREAS: In 1952, during a trip to Gaeta, Italy, Louis met the love of his life, Flora Caruso; the couple became engaged, Louis returned to Cambridge and tried unsuccessfully to bring Flora to this country; and

WHEREAS: Louis returned to Italy and married Flora, but he was once again unable to get permission to bring Flora to the United States until one fateful day in December when he picked up the Reverend John M. Frawley, a priest from Pittsburg, at Logan Airport in his cab. After hearing Louis' story, Father Frawley, who had just returned from Italy, promised to do what he could to unite the young married couple. Father Frawley's efforts were successful, and on February 22, 1954, Flora joined Louis; and

WHEREAS: Louis' passing will leave a void in the lives of all of his surviving friends and family, his wife Flora; his two sons Louis A., Jr. and Anthony; his daughter Anna M. Alcaro; his four brothers John, Frank, Joe and Benedict; his sister Ann Fucci; and his three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS: Louis 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 **Louis A. Miele** at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

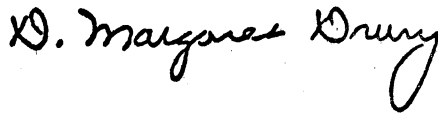
RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Miele family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council August 4, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;



ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

MAS

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124.

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and the Korean War; and

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Star for bravery for rescuing seven comrades

WHEREAS: under fire during an engagement in which only three of
the tanks in his unit emerged undamaged; and

WHEREAS: In 1952, during a trip to Lata, Italy,
Louis met the love of his life, Flora
Caruso; the couple became engaged, and
Louis returned to Cambridge and tried
unsuccessfully to bring Flora to this country; and

WHEREAS: Louis returned to Italy and married
Flora, but ~~later~~ he was once again unable
to get permission to bring Flora to the United
States until one fateful day in December
when he picked up the Reverend John M.
Frawley, a priest from Pittsburg, at
Logan Airport. After hearing Louis' story
Father Frawley, who had just returned from
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the young married couple. Father Frawley's
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22, 1954 Flora joined Louis; and

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the entire City Council.

Louis A. Miele, Cambridge cabbie and decorated war veteran; at 88

By Tom Long
GLOBE STAFF

Louis A. Miele, a Cambridge cabdriver who won a Bronze Star for bravery as a tank commander during World War II and was able to bring his Italian bride to the United States because of a chance encounter with a priest he picked up at Logan Airport, died of heart failure Sunday in Columbia Medical Center in Hudson, Fla. He was 88.

A short, stocky man with tattoos on both arms, Mr. Miele was a lifelong resident of Cambridge. He was a driver for Yellow Cab. Co. for many years and served in the Army during World War II and the Korean War.

During World War II, he was awarded a Bronze Star for bravery for rescuing seven comrades during an engagement in Belgium in which only three of the 12 tanks in his unit emerged undamaged.

"Louis got the star because he gave me the best ride I ever had in my life," Sergeant Robert Sturtevant of Greenland, N.H., said in a story published in the Boston Herald during the war.

"That day I got hit twice by 88s," said Sturtevant. "The second set the tank afire. My gunner and I crawled out of the turret and dropped over the burning side to the ground where we were pinned by machine gun fire.

"There was no point in staying still, so we started crawling, but wherever I went it seemed I crawled into a burning tank or machine gun fire. Then Lou came in. He drove that tank of his right in, just as the Germans were throwing everything at us. Seven of us grabbed onto that tank and he backed out but fast."

Mr. Miele had named his tank "The Aristocrat." The Aristocrat backed away from the German line so quickly it threw a track and was disabled. Mr. Miele and the men he

rescued scampered to the safety of a ditch.

When asked about his heroics by a Herald reporter when he was enjoying a two-day pass in Paris, Mr. Miele modestly said, "It wasn't anything but what you'd do." But the Army thought differently and awarded him a Bronze Star.

In 1952, during a trip to Gaeta, Italy, with his father, Mr. Miele met Flora Caruso, who, along with her mother, four sisters, and brother, had been confined to a German concentration camp in 1943 and liberated by American troops in 1944. The couple became engaged and Mr. Miele returned to Cambridge.

Mr. Miele tried to bring Flora to this country, but was unsuccessful because of immigration quotas. In August 1953 he returned to Italy, where the couple was married. He again returned to Cambridge and once again was unable to get permission to bring his wife to the US, until one fateful day in December 1953, when he picked up the Reverend John M. Frawley, a priest from Pittsburgh, at Logan Airport.

Father Frawley was working with the National Catholic Welfare Conference and had just returned from Italy. After he heard Mr. Miele's story, he said he'd do what he could to reunite the young couple. The priest's efforts were successful and, on Feb. 22, 1954, Flora emerged from a plane at Logan Airport into Mr. Miele's waiting arms.

Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Louis A. Jr. of Lakeland, Fla., and Anthony of Londonderry, N.H.; a daughter, Anna M. Alcaro of Port Richey, Fla.; four brothers, John of Medford, Frank and Joe, both of Cambridge, and Benedict of Stoneham; a sister, Ann Fucci of Gloucester; and three grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at 10 a.m. today in Arlington Funeral Home in Port Richey, Fla. Burial will be in Florida National Veterans Cemetery in Bushnell.

The

RECRUITING

Sunday

*Wanted?
Delivered!*



12 ~~12~~

7/30

8:58

Sullivan

Louis A. Miele

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Consent ORder #124

Entire
memb.

R-1080

Councillors Sullivan, Toomey
Galluccio and entire membership
re: Death resolution of
Louis A. Miele.

In City Council August 4, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED