



City of Cambridge

67.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 12, 1994

MAYOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR MYERS
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: On Friday, November 5, 1993, Cambridge lost one of its leading lights and most important citizens, a man who demonstrated a lifelong devotion to his community, particularly to its youth and to its elderly residents; and

WHEREAS: In his 88 years among us, LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR. lived an extraordinary life, having emigrated from his native Warwick, East Parish, Bermuda at the age of 16; and

WHEREAS: LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR., had broad-ranging interests and abilities, having been an active participant in the Congressional campaigns of Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill and John Fitzgerald Kennedy, a great sports aficionado who took joy in tennis, sailing, and cricket, and a man with a passion for the poetry of Pushkin; and

WHEREAS: LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR. was among the early founders of the Cambridge Community Center and of the original Riverside Neighborhood Association, and started the first program in Cambridge for physically challenged and disabled people at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS: As part of his unceasing concern for Cambridge's children, LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR. initiated one of the city's first youth tutorial programs, served at the Youth Services Bureau of the City of Cambridge as an advocate and protector of youth, and as the city's liaison to what is now the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School; and

WHEREAS: Countless African-American, Hispanic, and Portuguese young people have felt his supportive influence, his skills in reaching out to young people having been well tested in times of tension and unrest; and



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- WHEREAS: Countless African-American, Hispanic, and Portuguese young people have felt his supportive influence, his skills in reaching out to young people having been well tested in times of tension and unrest; and
- WHEREAS: Long after his retirement, he continued his involvement and interests in community affairs, it having been said of him, "He was loved by most, but respected by all"; now therefore be it
- WHEREAS: LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR. was a great friend to Cambridge's senior community, and was critical in establishing elderly housing at 2 Mt. Auburn Street; and

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RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council designate the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Essex Street as "LEROY H. JOHNSON, SR. SQUARE", and that said corner shall be heretofore known as such, so that all who pass and linger there shall remember this great community servant and leader.

Born *Shelley Myers Sullivan*
Consent Order #67
Griffiths *Walsh*
Mayor Reeves re: Death resolution
of Leroy H. Johnson, Sr. *R-558*

In City Council,

September 12, 1994

Order adopted