



City of Cambridge

59.

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 23, 1988

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

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Henry Hampton at the age of fifty-eight years; and

WHEREAS: Henry was born in St. Louis to Veva and Dr. Henry Hampton, Sr.; a chief of surgery at the Homer Phillips Hospital; and

WHEREAS: Henry attended Washington University in St. Louis and Boston University; and

WHEREAS: Henry became a board member at the African Meeting House where he joined the civil rights movement on Beacon Hill and worked for the Unitarian Universalist Church Headquarters; and

WHEREAS: Henry was an enormously talented film maker; he was the producer of the documentary "Eyes on the Prize;" he was a winner of an Emmy Award and a recipient of the Lee H. Jackson Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS: Henry's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his sisters Dr. Veva Zimmerman and Judi Hampton; his brother-in-law Davis Zimmerman; his nephews Tobias and Jacob Zimmerman; and

WHEREAS: Henry 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 Henry Hampton 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 Hampton family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council November 23, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
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Cancellon Reeves
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KT
all

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Henry Hampton, at 58, 'Eyes on Prize' producer

Henry Hampton, the pioneering producer of the civil rights documentary "Eyes on the Prize," died yesterday after a long struggle with lung cancer.

Mr. Hampton, 58, died at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Mr. Hampton was born in St. Louis in 1940 to Veva and Dr. Henry Hampton Sr., chief of surgery at the city's black hospital, Homer Phillips.

At Washington University in St. Louis, Mr. Hampton studied English and later came to Boston as a student at Boston University.

He joined the civil rights movement in his 20s.

It was in Boston that he explored and fell in love with the African Meeting House on Beacon Hill.

"I close my eyes and I hear the debates," he recalled later.

"I hear William Lloyd Garrison. I hear Frederick Douglass. I hear Maria Stewart. And I hear the boisterousness of church and of music and of community dialogues."

He soon became a board member of the meeting house.

A deeply religious man, he later worked for the Unitarian-Universalist Church's headquarters near the meeting house on Beacon Street.

Mr. Hampton was a struggling filmmaker in the South End when he convinced WGBH to take on his groundbreaking project and daring attempt to chronicle the civil rights movement.

His six-part series went on to

win an Emmy Award and placed as a finalist for an Academy Award.

It also kickstarted his film company, Blackside, Inc.

Using the success of his first film, he later created documentaries on the Great Depression and the War on Poverty.

But for much of his life, Mr.



HAMPTON

Hampton was wracked with illness. He caught polio as a teen. For much of this decade, he had fought lung cancer.

But despite his pain, Mr. Hampton re-

mained active in Boston.

He particularly spent time with minority youth, quietly advising teens on how to chase their dreams.

In April, he attended an Urban League of Greater Boston dinner to accept the Lee H. Jackson Achievement Award, and spoke about mortality and legacy.

"Among all human constructions, the only ones which survive the dissolving hands of time are the castles in the air, and those castles are dreams and visions of our future," Mr. Hampton said.

"Those dreams are the lights in the eyes of our children," he said.

Funeral arrangements and information on survivors was unavailable last night.

Suitable Order
On the Death
of Henry Hampton.

VVH

City of Cambridge

CONSENT ORDER LIST FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1998

43. Review the emerging arts landscape in Cambridge and determine what support the city can provide for neighborhood arts including determining if Neighborhood Art Centers should be added to the city's agenda for the future. 43.
- Councillor Reeves**



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Consent Order #59

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Councillor Reeves, Vice Mayor Galluccio,
councillor Triantafyllou and entire
membership re: resolution on the death of
Henry Hampton.

In City Council November 23, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED