



City of Cambridge

32.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 2, 1994

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR MYERS
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR WALSH
MAYOR REEVES

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the sudden death of **Constantine B. Simonides**, Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS: Constantine served as secretary of the Institute's Board of Trustee, was one of four corporate officers of MIT for the past decade and served as Vice President in the office of the president for the past twenty-four; and

WHEREAS: For the past five years, Constantine was the senior executive and chief strategist in the successful campaign to convince the U.S. Justice that MIT's cooperation with other colleges in granting more than \$25 million of need-based scholarship aid to its students was not a violation of the Massachusetts anti-trust act; and

WHEREAS: Constantine joined MIT in 1960 as Assistant to the Director of the Summer session, served as Assistant Director of International Programs in the Sloan School of Management (1962-64), Assistant Dean of the Sloan School (1964-66), Assistant to the President (1966-70) and was appointed Vice President by President Howard W. Johnson in June, 1970; and

WHEREAS: Constantine was an elected Town Meeting Member in the Town of Wellesley, and served as a trustee of Babson College and of Buckingham Browne & Nichols School and a member of the Trust Committee of the Baybank Trust Company; and

WHEREAS: Constantine's passing will leave a void in the lives of all of his surviving family, his wife Betty; his children Ted, Philip and Cynthia; his grandson Alexander; his sister Julia Cotsarides; his niece, Mirka Cotsarides and nephew John B. Cotsarides; and

WHEREAS: Constantine 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 **Constantine B. Simonides** 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 Simonides family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council May 2, 1994.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

#32

May 2, 1984

Councillor Toomey

Councillor Sullivan

Vice Mayor Russell

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Institute
of Technology

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•For Immediate Release, Monday, April 25, 1994•
Contact: Ken Campbell, MIT News Office, 617 253-2703

Constantine B. Simonides, 59, MIT Vice President, Secretary; Led MIT Fight for Need-Based Financial Aid

WELLESLEY, Mass. -- Constantine B. Simonides, 59, Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, died Sunday morning while playing tennis, apparently of a heart attack. He was pronounced dead at 11:35 a.m. at the Leonard Morse Metrowest Medical Center in Natick, Mass.

As secretary of the Institute's board of trustees (the Corporation), Mr. Simonides was one of four corporate officers of MIT for the past decade. He served as vice president in the office of the president for the past 24 years, serving four presidents in a period of extraordinary growth and change. His responsibilities included personnel, the medical department, public relations, admissions, athletics, career services and the MIT Press. He also served as the Institute's Equal Opportunity Officer.

MIT President Charles M. Vest said, "I am stunned by the sudden death of this close and valued colleague. The loss to MIT is incalculable. Constantine Simonides infected MIT with warmth and humanity. Through the force of his ebullient personality and through the boundless energy he applied to everything he did, he made MIT a happy, satisfying place to work. He was skilled at developing the best in people. He knew everybody and held them in the same respect whether they were student, custodian, administrator, professor or trustee.

"As vice president and secretary of the MIT Corporation, he kept the president's interaction with the trustees organized and flowing smoothly. His near-photographic memory regarding facts and happenings was legendary and a great asset in the conduct of his duties. Still, his greatest talent was a never-ending fascination with and insight into people. Constantine left an imprint on MIT that will serve us well for many, many years into the future," Dr. Vest said.

For the past five years, Mr. Simonides was the senior executive and chief strategist in the successful campaign to convince the U.S. Justice Department that MIT's cooperation with other colleges in granting more than \$25 million of need-based scholarship aid to its students was not a violation of the Sherman antitrust act. The Justice Department dropped the case last December.

Thane Scott, the lead attorney for Palmer and Dodge in MIT's financial aid antitrust case, said: "Constantine's unlimited curiosity and enthusiasm energized the lives of his many friends and colleagues. His deep and personal interest in the ideas and experiences of those around him made every contact with him memorable. All of us who were privileged to share his life will miss his practical wisdom, unparalleled good humor and extraordinary insight and intelligence."

Mr. Simonides joined MIT in 1960 as Assistant to the Director of the Summer Session. He served as Assistant Director of International Programs in the Sloan School of Management (1962-64), Assistant Dean of the Sloan School (1964-66), and Assistant to the President (1966-1970). He was appointed Vice President by President Howard W. Johnson in June, 1970. In October, 1985, he was elected Secretary and ex-officio member of the MIT Corporation, the university's board of trustees.

MORE

Paul E. Gray, chairman of the MIT Corporation, said "Constantine Simonides served the Institute, including its governing board, with absolute devotion and loyalty, with astonishing energy, and with an extraordinary degree of administrative creativity. He believed that MIT could become a better place for study and work – a greater contributor to education and research – and he saw it as his responsibility to help lift this special place to higher levels of performance. We were colleagues for nearly thirty years and I relied on him for advice and counsel, for sound judgment, for his Hellenic optimism and humor, and for a sustaining friendship. His death is a shocking loss to the Institute and to all of us who loved him and depended so fully on him."

He was born in Athens, Greece on May 5, 1934. At the age of 17, he came to the United States as an exchange student to attend St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Delaware, under the auspices of the American Field Service International Scholarships. He attended MIT and later received the AB degree in economics from Boston University in 1958 and the MBA degree in 1960 from Harvard University. He has been an American citizen since 1959.

He was an elected Town Meeting Member in the Town of Wellesley, and served as a trustee of Babson College in Wellesley and of the Buckingham Browne & Nichols School in Cambridge. He was a member of the Trust Committee of the BayBank Trust Company (Cambridge) and was a consultant to business, educational, and community organizations on leadership development, strategic planning and the roles of trustee and director.

In 1956, he married Betty Lane Allen of Belmont. Betty Simonides is a realtor with Prudential Landmark Properties in Wellesley, where they have lived for many years.

Mr. Simonides also is survived by three adult children, Ted (and his wife Donna, and their son Alexander Constantine), of Palo Alto, Calif.; Philip (and his wife Shaun) of Wellesley; Cynthia, of Boston; his sister, Julia Cotsarides, of Athens, Greece; his niece, Mirka Cotsarides of Athens; and his nephew, John B. Cotsarides, of New York City. His family will miss his warmth and guidance.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, April 29 at 12 noon at the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church, 207 Washington Street in Wellesley Hills. It is being arranged through J. S. Waterman & Sons of Wellesley.

The family will receive friends at their home in Wellesley Hills on Wednesday, April 27 beginning at 2 o'clock, and also immediately following the service on Friday. There will be a private burial at the Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge.

A memorial service will be held at MIT later in the Spring. Memorial contributions may be made to the Constantine B. Simonides Memorial Fund at MIT, and may be sent to the MIT Office of the Treasurer, Suite 200, 238 Main Street, Cambridge, Mass 02142.



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May 2, 1994

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COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL

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Don, Hinchey, Myers, Keenes,
Consent Order #32

Trantafillon, Walsh R-290

Councillors Toomey, Sullivan and
Vice Mayor Russell re: ~~Death~~
resolution on Constantine B. Simonides,
Vice President and Secretary of the
Corporation of the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology.

Order adopted

In City Council,

May 2, 1994