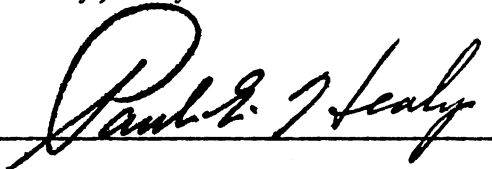


In City Council February 3, 1986.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.



City of Cambridge

10.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 3, 1986

COUNCILLOR SAUNDRA GRAHAM

- WHEREAS: Ronald E. McNair, the first black scientist-astronaut and the second black American in Space; and
- WHEREAS: As a research scientist and adventurer, Ronald McNair had become a space-age role model for kids, a trailblazer on the pathways begun by black scientists George Washington Carver and Charles Drew; and
- WHEREAS: Ronald McNair had a PhD from M.I.T. in laser physics, was named a presidential scholar, and received the Ford Foundation fellow and researcher with Hughes Research Laboratories in California; and
- WHEREAS: Ronald McNair was the son of impoverished South Carolina auto mechanic and schoolteacher who never forgot his humble roots; and
- WHEREAS: Not only was he an expert at light-amplification physics, but he was also proud to be an accomplished jazz musician; and
- WHEREAS: While in graduate school, Ron lived in a black neighborhood near Massachusetts Avenue in Roxbury and worked closely with black inner-city youths in Cambridge and Boston, teaching them the rewards of discipline and self improvement through karate classes he started at St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge, where he met and married the former Cheryl Moore; and
- WHEREAS: Ron McNair believed that black minds have "skills to control a spacecraft or scalpel with the same finesse and dexterity with which they control a basketball"; and
- WHEREAS: He was one of the fortunate few to witness majestic sun rises and sunsets as the Space Shuttle traversed the earth; and
- WHEREAS: He was one who observed the "breath-taking fireball enveloping the shuttle as it bore a fiery hole into the earth's atmosphere upon re-entry," and who worked to broaden our knowledge and enhancement of life; and
- WHEREAS: Ronald E. McNair gave his life to his work, and he gave us all a precious and proud legacy; he is a hero who deserves our thanks; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED: That this City Council extends its deepest sympathy to the wife and son of Ronald McNair, Cheryl and Reginald Ervin, 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 McNair family, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church and to NASA.

Order #10

S-61

C. Graham re: resolutions on the death of
Ronald E. McNair, the first black Astro-
naut in space, who with six other astro-
nauts died tragically in the space shuttle
Columbia.

In City Council,

February 3, 1986

2/3/1986

CH
A Adopted
A-