



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 14-5267, **Version:** 1

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### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **IN MEMORY OF GEORGE A. LEONI**

**WHEREAS**, George A. Leoni, of Melrose Park, Illinois passed away on September 3, 2014, after living a long and rich life dedicated to family, service and community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Leoni was born in a small town in Pennsylvania and settled in Melrose Park in 1922, where he lived the rest of his life; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Leoni fought valiantly for his country in World War II. In the midst of intense fighting in the Philippines, he carried one of his wounded men to safety and was shot in the shoulder. For his bravery, he was awarded the Purple Heart; and

**WHEREAS**, for over 35 years he owned Leoni's Restaurant, which he operated with his beloved late wife, Lena and their daughters, Georgia and Donna. For over three decades, Leoni's was not just known for its delicious food, but as a place where everyone was welcomed and treated as family. Countless people still share stories and memories of Leoni's and the great times they had there; and

**WHEREAS**, George Leoni served as the Executive Director of the Veteran's Park District for over three decades. During his tenure, he is credited for many innovations and expanded services and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Leoni's love for his community and its residents was always evident. He volunteered his time and energy to several organizations including Proviso Mental Health, PARC, Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans, Villa Scalabrini Home for the Aged, Disabled American Veterans, Melrose Park Police and Fire Commission and Melrose Park Little League, Football and Hockey; and

**WHEREAS**, George Leoni's greatest pride and passion were his family and friends. He was a devoted husband and patriarch who instilled the values of integrity, loyalty and unconditional love. He was a steadfast friend, always available to counsel or help or simply lighten a mood with his wonderful smile. His positive impact on so many is his lasting legacy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby offer their sincere condolences to George A. Leoni's daughters, Georgia and Donna, his grandchildren; Carlene, Michalene, Roberta, George and Anthony and their spouses; his great-grandchildren; Jona, Jimmy, Jake, Logan, Bowie, Blaise and Nico; his loving companion, Madeline Pyka and her family and his extended family and numerous friends.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a proper copy of this resolution be prepared as evidence of the high esteem in which George A. Leoni is held by this Honorable Body and the residents of Cook County.