

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10

WHEREAS, *Reuben Salters, a man of humble beginnings, was born on May 28, 1929 in South Carolina and pursued his education in North Carolina. His path led him to the United States Air Force, where in 1954, he encountered a woman who would change his life, Jo Anna McCray, at the local USO. Their love story, marked by a dance and a lifelong companionship, culminated in their marriage on June 10, 1955, and the birth of their three children: Michael, Kathrina, and Beverly; and*

WHEREAS, *after breaking commission and being stationed at Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, he attended Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, where he heard Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preach. At the time, he was unaware that Dr. King would become such a powerful and wonderful man.*

WHEREAS, *after retiring from military service in 1971, he settled into civilian life in Dover, Delaware, with his wife Jo Anna and three children following his arrival at the Dover Air Force Base in 1957; and*

WHEREAS, *before his tenure on the Dover City Council, Mr. Salters, in a remarkable display of community spirit, joined forces with the late Dr. Luna I. Mishoe. Their shared vision led to the initiation of the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day program in 1987, a tradition that continues to unite and inspire the community, serving as a testament to their enduring legacy; and*

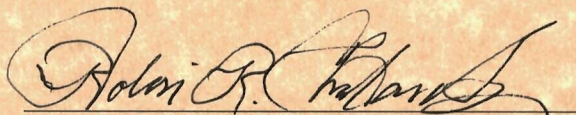
WHEREAS, *Reuben Salters is a prominent figure in Dover, Delaware, known for his extensive contributions to the community. Salters successfully ran for Dover City Council in 1989, representing the city's 4th District, and served over 20 years on Dover's city council before retiring in 2011; and*


WHEREAS, *in addition to his political career, Salters dedicated himself to community development. He founded the Inner City Cultural League, a nonprofit organization that has become a beacon of cultural and educational opportunities for youth and adults in Dover. This organization, with its diverse programs in dance, music, and theater, stands as a testament to his commitment to enriching the community. His instrumental role in organizing the city's African American Festival further underscores his dedication to celebrating and promoting cultural diversity.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council wish retired Dover City Councilman Reuben Salters a happy 95th birthday and recognize that he has played a pivotal role in numerous initiatives aimed at enhancing the local community. His work has earned him widespread respect and recognition within the community, making him a central figure in the ongoing efforts to enrich and support Dover's cultural and civic life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council direct the City Clerk to make this resolution a part of the permanent records of the City of Dover as a lasting symbol of appreciation and gratitude to Reuben J. Salters.

ADOPTED: JUNE 10, 2024


ROBIN R. CHRISTIANSEN
MAYOR


DAVID L. ANDERSON
COUNCIL PRESIDENT