

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd was born on April 3, 1928, in the City Alexandria, the youngest of three sons to Theodore Benjamin Lloyd and Daisy Mitchell Lloyd and was raised on Montgomery Street in Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd graduated from Parker-Gray High School in 1946 and was known throughout his school days as a standout athlete at both Lyles-Crouch Elementary School and Parker-Gray High School and was named to the All-South Atlantic Conference three times and the All-State Virginia Interscholastic Conference twice; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lloyd attended West Virginia State College, where he was named All-Conference three times and was All-American twice, where he also received his B.S. Degree in physical education in 1950; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Earl Lloyd made history as the first African-American to play in the NBA when he was drafted to play for the Washington Capitals, and where, after seven games, he was drafted into the Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd returned to basketball in 1952 with the Syracuse Nationals and with the nickname “Big Cat,” on October 31, 1955 in Rochester, New York, he became the first African-American to play on an NBA championship team with the Syracuse Nationals. In 1960, he became the first black assistant coach with the Detroit Pistons and would later be hired as the league’s first African-American bench coach, and in 1971, Mr. Lloyd became the NBA’s fourth black head coach; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame in 1993, the CIAA Hall of Fame in 1998, was enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003, and the new basketball court at T.C. Williams High School was name in his honor in 2007; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2015, Earl Francis Lloyd died at his home in Crossville, Tennessee at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lloyd is survived by his wife Charlita, sons Kevin, Kenneth and David, four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby send sincere condolences to the family of Earl Lloyd.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 14th day of April, 2015.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk