


PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 20-0457 Recognizing and Honoring the Community Service of Edward S. Valdez

WHEREAS, Edward S. Valdez, known universally among his many friends and family as Eddie, was a fifth-generation Denverite of Auraria, Barnum and Harvey Park; and

WHEREAS, Eddie attended West High School where, among other activities, he was a participant in the school's renowned Singing Christmas Tree; and

WHEREAS, Eddie was a person of singular kindness and generosity, a man of selfless giving who derived satisfaction from helping others, sharing his time and talents, and giving encouragement to anyone with whom he worked or met; and

WHEREAS, Eddie's deep love for and devotion to his native city led to his extensive chronicling of its neighborhoods and the changes over time through his photography of block upon block of old downtown Denver and its many surrounding areas through the 1970s, 1980s and into the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, Eddie and his longtime partner, Larry Morris, were together for 41 years, and on September 14, 2016, they were married in Denver; and

WHEREAS, Eddie shared his prodigious collection of Denver photographs through a Facebook page he created, Denver A Witness to History, on which he posted hundreds of then-and-now views of dozens of blocks throughout the city, and researched answers for people on numerous local questions; and

WHEREAS, Eddie was a stalwart Democratic Party activist in southwest Denver's House District 1, serving in elected positions including Co-Captain, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Finance Chair; was a tireless campaigner and a mentor to many up-and-coming members; a treasure chest of information, guidance, resources and genuine honesty who, even if it was his own efforts that achieved the goal, nevertheless always credited the team; and

WHEREAS, Eddie was a fastidious gardener whose yard in Harvey Park was ablaze with all sorts of blooms and wildflowers; and

WHEREAS, after each snowfall, Eddie routinely and tirelessly shoveled walks up and down Raleigh Street at Jewell Avenue and surrounding blocks for his neighbors, and this past winter when he became ill and unable to shovel, he paid someone else to clear the walk of an elderly neighbor in his place; and,

WHEREAS, Eddie passed away on May 7, 2020, and leaves a great void in the hearts of his many friends; and

WHEREAS, if it snows in heaven, Eddie is shoveling the path to its pearly gates to clear the way for all those who will follow him there,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes and honors the life of Edward S. Valdez and his service to the community, and desires that all the people of Denver would be so moved to civic involvement in his memory.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to Larry Morris and the rest of the family of Edward S. Valdez.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL May 11, 2020



PRESIDENT