



HR0954

LRB102 29085 ECR 41016 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives mourn the loss of Elmhurst Police Chief
4 Michael R. Ruth, who passed away on May 30, 2022; and

5 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth was born to Carl and JoAnn Ruth in
6 Evergreen Park on April 23, 1959; he graduated from Alan B.
7 Shepard High School in 1978; he served for 44 years in law
8 enforcement in multiple Chicago suburbs; he began as a
9 dispatcher in Alsip and then became a patrolman in Hometown
10 before joining the Skokie Police Department in 1981; he served
11 in many roles during his time with the Skokie Police
12 Department and eventually rose through the ranks to the
13 position of commander; he then served as chief of police in
14 Countryside from 2010 to 2012 before being appointed to the
15 position of chief of police in Elmhurst; and

16 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth's greatest accomplishments in his
17 10-year role as Elmhurst police chief were building strong
18 community engagement initiatives and implementing new crime
19 prevention technologies; specifically, he implemented numerous
20 Community Oriented Policing standards, such as increasing
21 social media presence, increasing presence at and around
22 Elmhurst schools, and instituting a Prescription Drug Take
23 Back program, a NARCAN and Epi-Pen deployment program, and a

1 Citizens Police Academy; he most notably implemented the
2 Neighborhood Roll Call program, which brought the Police
3 Officers Shift Meeting to different neighborhoods two week
4 nights each week to inform and answer questions from the
5 residents, making the community safer and more informed; and

6 WHEREAS, Most notably, Michael Ruth helped the Elmhurst
7 Police Department reach Tier 1 State Accreditation, a
8 recognition by the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation
9 Program Council (ILEAP) that showcased the department's
10 professionalism in interacting with the community and provided
11 a model for other police departments to follow; and

12 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth also served as a professor, teaching
13 criminal justice students at the University of
14 Illinois-Chicago and Governors State University, sharing his
15 personal experiences and knowledge about law enforcement; he
16 was also a graduate of the 207th Session of the FBI National
17 Academy, where he was chosen to go through a 10-week program
18 learning about terrorism, law, management, behavioral science,
19 forensics, and much more in order to become a better leader for
20 his community; he also served as president of the West
21 Suburban Chiefs of Police Association; and

22 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth was committed to a sense of honor,
23 duty, and service, as reflected by his last radio call in

1 Elmhurst, which was dedicated to remembering his life, his
2 love for his family, appreciation by those at the City of
3 Elmhurst who knew and worked with him, and his commitment to
4 the City of Elmhurst; and

5 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth was preceded in death by his parents
6 and his sisters, Carla Jean Ruth and Theresa Cruzen Martinka;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Michael Ruth is survived by his wife, Susan L.
9 Ruth; his daughter, Susan C. Ruth; his sisters, Patricia
10 (Chris) Marsicano, Christina (Mark) Kakuk, and Laura (David)
11 Piolatto; his nieces and nephews; his cousin, Valerie
12 Harrington; and his beloved dogs, Bailey and Rudy; therefore,
13 be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we mourn the passing of Elmhurst Police Chief Michael R. Ruth
17 and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends,
18 community, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Michael Ruth as an expression of our
21 deepest sympathy.