



CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Seconded by: Councillor Josh Matlow

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of James Raymond Cowling on May 14, 2018, at the age of 89 years old.

Ray Cowling came from humble beginnings. He cut his teeth at Menzies-Gibson Limited at 80 George Street in Toronto. Over the years, Ray's career blossomed. He became one of Canada's leading independent food brokers, importers and distributors. Ray finished his business career as the founder and president of the Cowling Group of Companies, conveniently located ten houses away from his principal residence.

Through the James Raymond Cowling Foundation, established in 1994, Ray Cowling was a great philanthropist who primarily helped children with intellectual disabilities. Ray contributed too many charities including Best Buddies, Casey House, and numerous hospitals.

Ray lived in Rosedale for over 50 years. In 2012 he donated the money to erect the "Gates of Rosedale" at the entrance to Crescent Road.

Ray was an athlete who loved football and squash. He was a world traveler who enjoyed spending his winters in Palm Beach. Ray's dogs (including Nemo) and polar bears held a very special place in his heart.

Ray loved his friends and entertained frequently. He was true and loyal and he kept in touch. Ray was predeceased by his loving parents, Frank and Catherine Cowling, by his brother Frank, and by his partner, Michael LaPatrillo. Ray is survived by his nephew, Brian Cowling, his niece, Lynn Cowling and his great-nephews, Jamie and Stephen Mogavero.

Ray will be remembered for his generosity, his natural charm and his infectious smile and laugh.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the family of James Raymond Cowling.

May 23, 2018