

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Michael Thompson

Seconded by: Mayor John Tory

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Susan Margaret Campbell on February 7, 2015 at the age of 89.

Mrs. Campbell was born Susan Margaret Church on April 27, 1925 in a cabin on the shores of the Bay of Quinte in Prince Edward County. The only girl in a family of five children, she grew up in Toronto's Cabbagetown. Although her family was not well off during the depression, they always found enough to share with the less fortunate who frequently came to their door. This lesson of giving was one that guided Margaret throughout the rest of her life.

In 1946, Margaret married Lawrence Campbell. The couple moved to Scarborough where their two daughters were born. A stay-at-home mother in the 50s and 60s, Margaret used her free time to serve others. During the Korean War, she joined other women in her church to help the Red Cross wrap bandages for those wounded in combat. She also began a commitment to community activism and involvement that defined the rest of her life.

As her children grew older, Margaret became a tireless advocate for social change and civil rights. She went to work at Bulova where she soon took over the presidency of the local Steelworkers Union. Her life was defined by action, whether it was filling her basement with Christmas baskets for needy families along with her church group, working on fundraisers, driving cancer patients to appointments, working with Neighbourhood Watch, writing letters, calling politicians about street lights or skateboard parks, advocating for workers' rights or just lending a helping hand where ever she could.

Margaret also worked diligently for the politicians she believed in at election time. She regularly called Councillors to express her points-of-view or to discuss issues. Over the years they also called Margaret to get her perspectives. She loved her community, and for over 60 years she worked to make a difference in the lives of others.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our deep admiration for Mrs. Campbell's exceptional contribution to our City, and our sincere sympathy to her family.

March 31, 2015