

RESOLUTION NO. 14-089

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ARTHUR GUILD CONNOLLY, JR.

WHEREAS, Arthur “Art” Guild Connolly, Jr., the son of the late Arthur G. Connolly, Sr. and the late Gerardine Laffey Connolly, was born in Wilmington, Delaware on September 5, 1937. As the oldest of 6 children, Art enjoyed a wonderful family life; and

WHEREAS, Art Connolly, Jr attended Wilmington Friends School from kindergarten through tenth grade and graduated from Archmere Academy in 1955, the same year he met his wife of 54 years, Joan McDowell Connolly; and

WHEREAS, Art was an excellent athlete who excelled in football, basketball, baseball and tennis. He possessed both a fierce competitive spirit and good sportsmanship. He attended Georgetown University where he continued his distinction in athletics as a pitcher on the baseball team. He graduated from G.U. in 1959 and received his *Juris Doctor* from Georgetown Law School in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Art was a competitive runner and biker who competed in hundreds of races until 2013. Even after being diagnosed with cancer, he continued to run and bike and completed a successful duathlon in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Art was known locally, regionally, and nationally as an outstanding litigator. He was a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a past President of the Delaware State Bar Association, and a past Chair of the Delaware Board of Bar Examiners. His professional contributions also included service on the Advisory Committee, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; Board of Directors, Delaware Volunteer Legal Services; Fellow, American Bar Foundation; Member, Code of Judicial Conduct Committee of the Supreme Court of Delaware; and Member, Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Delaware. He also was an Adjunct Professor of Trial Practice at Widener University School of Law. He received the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware Service Award and the Delaware Bar Association's Distinguished Pro Bono Award; and

WHEREAS, Art's many contributions to the community included serving as past Chair of the State Public Integrity Commission and as a Member of the Board of Trustees at both Wilmington Friends School and Archmere Academy. He was a founding Board Member and past Chairman of Cancer Care Connection. Art also was a Director of the Laffey-McHugh Foundation beginning in 1967 and served as President from 1998 until his death. Art and Joan were recognized by Children and Family's First of Delaware with the 2000 J. Thompson Brown award for their longstanding dedication to helping children in our state; and

WHEREAS, Art's favorite times were spent with his loving family and his many friends. He always was eager to help others and had no real desire for merit or recognition. His kindness, intelligence, and quick wit will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Arthur Guild Connolly, Jr. died at the age of 76 on March 25, 2014 at his home in Wilmington and will be dearly missed by his wife of 54 years, Joan, and his three children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by and for the County Council of New Castle County that County Council hereby extends heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Arthur “Art” Connolly, Jr. on his recent passing, honors his life and legacy, and recognizes his outstanding contributions to law and the community at large and dedication to civic duty for New Castle County.

Adopted by the County Council
of New Castle County on 04/08/2014

President of County Council
of New Castle County

SYNOPSIS: Same as title

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no discernible fiscal impact.