

1 Introduced by Council Member Hazouri:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2021-468**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MOURNING THE
6 PASSING OF ARNOLD TRITT; REQUESTING EMERGENCY
7 PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Arnold Tritt was born on February 7, 1934 in
11 Jacksonville, Florida, where he and his two older siblings, Millicent
12 and Abner, were raised by their mother, Rose, in the Brentwood public
13 housing project on the Northside. Arnold Tritt, along with his
14 lifelong best friend (former Jacksonville Mayor and Council Member)
15 Jake Godbold, graduated from Andrew Jackson High School; and

16 **WHEREAS**, after high school, Mr. Tritt enlisted in the U.S. Army
17 and was stationed in occupied Germany during the post W.W. II years.
18 After his return from active duty, he graduated from the University
19 of Florida with degrees in both Journalism and Public Relations; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Arnold Tritt met Virginia ("Ginger") Lee Ford in
21 Birmingham, Alabama shortly after graduation and was immediately
22 smitten with her. The following day they went out for dinner and they
23 were inseparable thereafter. Arnold and Ginger moved back to
24 Jacksonville for the wedding, where they shared almost sixty years
25 of marriage, raised their sons, Arnold, Jr., Lee-Ford and John, and
26 then later were blessed with four grandchildren: Lillie Rose, Lee-
27 Ford, Noah and Nathaniel; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in the early 1970's, the Tritts moved to the Avondale
29 neighborhood and Arnold worked as a truancy officer because he loved
30 helping young people. A few years later, Arnold was hired to be the
31 Executive Officer for the Northeast Florida Builders Association

1 (NEFBA). Under his leadership the organization grew from a grassroots
2 operation with 180 members, to one with over 3000 members, one of the
3 largest homebuilders' associations in the country. While in that
4 position, an important passion project for Arnold was the NEFBA
5 apprenticeship program, which provided youth with the opportunity for
6 successful careers in the construction industry; and

7 **WHEREAS**, after retirement, Arnold Tritt was awarded the Lifetime
8 Achievement Award from the National Association of Home Builders and
9 was inducted into the Florida Home Builders Hall of Fame. He also
10 served in many civil capacities over the years, including as the
11 President of the Jacksonville Jaycees, the City of Jacksonville's
12 Sister City Association, the Chairman of Muscular Dystrophy, Chair
13 of the Boys & Girls Club, Chairman of the Jacksonville Transportation
14 Authority, Chairman of Big Brothers, and Board Member for the
15 Jacksonville Police and Fire Pension Fund; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Arnold Tritt passed away on July 1, 2021 at home
17 surrounded by family. He will be remembered for his love of fishing
18 with Jake, helping others, and sharing time with friends and family
19 wherein he always insisted on picking-up the restaurant bill. Arnold's
20 life was full of love, friendship and kindness and he will be dearly
21 missed by all who to knew him; now therefore

22 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

23 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors the life
24 of Arnold Tritt and his contributions to our city. City Council
25 extends heartfelt condolences to all of the Tritt family and friends
26 upon Arnold's passing, and hopes that the memories of him will provide
27 them comfort and peace.

28 **Section 2. Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**
29 **pursuant to Council Rule 4.901.** Emergency passage upon introduction
30 of this Resolution is requested so that this Resolution can be
31 presented to the Tritt family in a timely manner.

1 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
2 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
3 without the Mayor's signature.

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5 Form Approved:

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7 /s/Paige H. Johnston

8 Office of General Counsel

9 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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