

Resolution



DATE: January 29, 2018
STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

A Celebration on the Birthday of Paul McDonald Harris

Be It Remembered, that in commemoration of the 100th birthday of Paul McDonald Harris, born on January 28th, 1918, Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel offers the following resolution:

- Whereas**, Paul McDonald Harris was born on January 28, 1918 in Vickery, Texas, now part of Dallas. Paul spent his early years in Vickery, Oak Lawn, Carrollton and University Park following his father's career as an educator in those communities; and
- Whereas**, Paul graduated from Highland Park High School where he started dabbling in the arts—painting, woodcarving and drawing. He later attended Southern Methodist University and earned a bachelor's degree in Biology, and a teaching certificate; and
- Whereas**, Paul first worked as a teacher in the Grand Prairie school system before being drafted into the Army where he served for four years as a clerk in various locations. One service location, a military hospital in Sissone, France, took care of the soldiers that fought in the Battle of the Bulge. After peace was declared, he was sent to Paris for six months before returning home to resume his career as an educator; and
- Whereas**, Upon his return, Paul was appointed principal of William B. Travis School in Grand Prairie where he worked for three years before becoming the youngest principal in DISD at Davy Crockett Elementary School. It was here that he met and then married a beautiful speech therapist named Clara. Over the next 17 years, Paul served as principal of Lakewood Elementary School, JL Long Middle School and finally Woodrow Wilson High School. One class of students followed him from school to school for 11 of their 12 years of school; and
- Whereas**, The next phase of his career was as Curriculum Director of the new Skyline Career Development Center in DISD. He worked with teaching staff to develop special curriculum based on behavioral objectives for the 24 clusters at Skyline. His department gained national recognition from publisher Harper & Row who published some of their work. The department also collaborated with Ft. Sills Artillery School on a new behavioral objective-based curriculum. Paul was awarded the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara for his work; and
- Whereas**, After retiring as an educator, Paul and Clara started a second career and bought a picture frame shop. After several years, the business was passed to their son, and retirement had finally begun. That is until Clara took a volunteer job in the Highland Park United Methodist Church music library. Paul joined in the volunteer effort and they worked for another 18 years as music librarians. The couple did not completely retire until after their move to CC Young; and
- Whereas**, Paul is an amazing character who delights in getting to know everyone around him and learning something interesting about them. He is friendly, cheerful, a life-long learner and an incredible example of tireless optimism. He is greatly admired and loved by his wife Clara, their four children, eight grandchildren and brand new great-grandchild; and
- Whereas**, One of his greatest pleasures is creating art and watercolor paintings. He has enjoyed entering many art shows including the CC Young Art is Ageless show and the LeadingAge Texas shows. He loves the incredible community of CC Young and its vision of a glowing future.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that Dallas County Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel wishes you the best on your 100th birthday celebration. May you spend it surrounded by loved ones, family and friends. Happiest of birthdays!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Theresa M. Daniel".

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel,

Dallas County Commissioner, District 1

Signed this 29th day of January, 2018, in Dallas County, Texas