



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

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For immediate release

April 23, 2015

Former Commissioner Gloria Alitto Majewski passes away

Gloria Alitto Majewski passed away on April 20, 2015. She served as a Commissioner on the Board for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (District) from 1984 to November 2010 when she retired from office.

It was only after the tragic and sudden loss of her beloved husband, Commissioner Chester Majewski, that her late mother, Rose Durante Alitto, encouraged and supported Gloria in her campaign to fill her late husband's unexpired term. With her daughters in tow and the strong support of the late Congressman Dan Rostenkowski and many friends, Gloria hit the campaign trail running, with the family car as her transportation and the kitchen table as her campaign headquarters.

Once elected, Commissioner Majewski was instrumental in expanding the District's outreach efforts by instituting a public education program and personally speaking to thousands of organizations about the District. Commissioner Majewski quickly became a distinguished leader on the Board of Commissioners and in 1986 made history when she became the first woman chosen by her fellow board members to serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee, an office she retained until her last day of service.

As Chairman of the Finance Committee, Commissioner Majewski pioneered a 5% or less tax cap on the District's tax levy four years before it was mandated by state law. It was no coincidence that the District saw its bond rating improve to the highest rating it had ever been awarded by Fitch's, Moody's and Standard & Poor's during Commissioner Majewski's tenure as Chairman of the Finance Committee, becoming



one of a very select few agencies to be awarded AAA, Aaa and AA+ ratings respectively. Her success wasn't limited to her role on the Finance Committee but also to the Maintenance and Operations Committee and as a Commissioner Board Member to the District Retirement Fund. Commissioner Majewski also served as volunteer for the Working in the Schools ("WITS") program and served as a principal for a day for many years in the Chicago Public Schools and other distinguished organizations.



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Former Commissioner Gloria Alitto Majewski passes away (continued)

Commissioner Majewski received many honors and awards, the greatest of which was the renaming of the 350 million gallon Chicago Underflow Plan reservoir to the “Gloria Alitto Majewski Reservoir.” She also received: the Polish American Political League’s Distinguished Service Award; the Disabled Veteran’s “Commander’s Award;” the New Horizons Center for the Developmentally Disabled “Special Friend to Special Children Award;” the Illinois Federation of Business and Professional Women’s “Women of Achievement Award;” the Metropolitan Chicago Minority Enterprise Development Council’s “Recognition Award;” and the Gregorian’s “Humanitarian of the Year Award.”

Gloria leaves behind daughters Joy Adelizzi and Kimberly (Tony) Feeney and grandchildren Shannon and Daniel. Shannon graduated from Illinois State University in May 2014 and is working with

Best Buddies of Illinois. Daniel is a junior at Indiana University and attending on a full football scholarship; he is the starting offensive right guard and will graduate in May 2016. Besides being a mother and grandmother, Gloria is a sister to Ronald Alitto, an aunt, great aunt and friend to many. She was an avid sports fan frequently talking about her beloved Bears and Chicago Cubs.

She was an exceptional woman and will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be held from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Fri., April 24 at Salerno Funeral Home, 450 Lake St., Roselle, IL. Funeral mass will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sat., April 25 at St. Francis Borgia Church, 8033 W. Addison St., Chicago. Interment will be at All Saints Mausoleum.

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.