

In Memoriam



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens. One of these individuals was **Steve “Dave McKay” Ehmke**, one of the Tampa Bay area’s most beloved citizens and well-known Radio Host, who passed away on Thursday, August 4, 2016 at age 55; and

WHEREAS, born Steve T. Ehmke on June 27, 1961, Dave was raised in Buffalo, New York, and he was an active and outgoing child who endeared people to him, a trait he mastered his entire life; and

WHEREAS, his personality and wonderful sense of humor was perfect for radio broadcasting, and he excelled in the field beginning after high school working for WWSE-FM 93.3 in Jamestown, New York as a Board Operator and then as a Disc Jockey hosting the morning show. His career led him to WBUF-FM 93 in Buffalo, New York, WGLD-AM 1320 in Greensboro, North Carolina and thereafter with its sister station WOJY-JOY FM, WCRZ-CARS 108 in Flint, Michigan and WZPL-FM 99.5 in Indianapolis, Indiana, prior to his move to St. Petersburg, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Dave called the Tampa area home after arriving in 1992, when he began working for WRBQ-FM 104.7 (Q105) radio where he immediately found a loyal listening audience, and in 1996, he established his radio family with WQYK-FM 99.5 (QYK) a Country Music Station where his famous presence won the hearts of his co-workers and listeners alike, and he served as Co-Host of the ***Dave and Veronica Morning Show***, a highly rated weekday program in the 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM time slot, and he was known as an expert Audio Producer, and his love of radio led him to his hobby of collecting and restoring antique radios and jukeboxes; and

WHEREAS, Dave loved his listeners and his community, and he was exceptionally generous with his time and resources for organizations and individuals including serving as an emcee or auctioneer for benefit galas, giving school supplies to area children, assisting non-profits, and he often gave financially, sometimes anonymously, to someone in need; and

WHEREAS, his passion for radio was evident throughout his more than thirty years in the industry, and he was popular and respected by all in the industry, with artists, politicians, law enforcement, the media and the radio audience, and he was well recognized for his high standards and dedication to his craft and devoted listeners; and

WHEREAS, Dave was especially known for his kindness, generosity, integrity, infectious smile and outgoing personality, and as a man who cherished his Mother, family, friends, and radio, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on through the improvements he brought to our community, and in all those whose lives he has touched through his sharing and love; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to the Steve “Dave McKay” Ehmke Family, his beloved mother Marianna and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their cherished memories and the impact of his life on our community.

Dated this 11th day of August, 2016.



Mayor

