

## **RESOLUTION NO. 13-212**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, wish to acknowledge the many contributions to recreation activities in our city made by David Napier Sington while operating Sington Sporting Goods. He was a recognized football player at the University of Alabama, and well-respected local businessman, organizer and marketer in Huntsville and throughout the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dave was born into one of Alabama's finest football families to Fred and Nancy Sington and brothers Fred, Jr., and Leonard. Fred, Sr., was an Alabama icon who played football and baseball for the Crimson Tide, and was named one of the football team's all-time greats when the Team of the Century was unveiled in 1992. Fred, Sr., later served as President of the University's National Alumni Association, and accompanied Dr. Frank Rose to Texas to lure Coach Paul 'Bear' Bryant away from Texas A & M in 1957. He was a two-time All-American and is in the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. Older brother Fred, Jr., was a senior in 1958 and scored the first points of the Bryant Era of Crimson Tide football; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dave graduated from Shades Valley High School in Birmingham where he was shot put State Champion in 1954 and 1955 and held the state record two years. In 1955, he was shot put record holder for Alabama and Georgia and high school Southern Relays Shot Put Champion. He also was a three-year letterman in football, in 1953-1954 was High School All County for Jefferson County and in 1954 High School All Southern, All State and All American for which he received an All American Watch; and,

**WHEREAS**, in his freshman year at the University of Alabama he served as team Captain for Coach Bryant's inaugural season. In 1955 and 1956, he played on the All SEC Freshman and Sophomore Teams, and in 1958 was on the All SEC Academic Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC and Football Digest All American Team. Also in 1956, he was SEC Freshman Shot Put Champion and lettered in track in 1957-1958. In addition to his sports achievements, he was in the ODK Honorary Society at the University and recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities. Later in 2000, Dave received the Bill Wade Unsung Hero Award from the All American Football Foundation; and,

**WHEREAS**, most of Dave's business career was as an owner of Fred Sington's Sporting Goods in Huntsville. He served as President of the Alabama Sporting Goods Association, President of the Southeastern Sporting Goods Association and President and Treasurer of the National Sporting Goods Association. While serving as President of the National Sporting Goods Association, sports notables Mike Ditka and Bart Starr attended as guests and golfer Lee Trevino attended the National Sporting Goods Show; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1963 he coached the Huntsville semi pro football teams, the Huntsville Rockets in the Dixie Professional Football League that later became the Alabama Hawks. The Hawks were members of the Continental Football League in the Eastern Division of the Atlantic Conference during the league's last two years (1968-1969). The Hawks sent several notable

players on to the NFL, including Jeff Van Note, Chip Myers and Glen Condren. Dave was also inducted into the Madison County Sports Hall of Fame; and,

**WHEREAS**, some of the memberships and offices Dave held included Huntsville Quarterback Club Captain, President of the Madison County University of Alabama Alumni Association, member of the Alabama

A Club, Board member of the Red Elephant Club, Rotary Club member, President of the Huntsville Country Club Board, President of Central YMCA Board, Board Member of the Huntsville Boys and Girls Club and Deacon at First Christian Church; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dave was married to his wife of 53 years, Peggy Payne Sington, and they were the proud parents of son Dee Sington and daughter Cindy Sington Daily, husband Jay and granddaughters Megan and Claire; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dave passed this life on December 8, 2012, at the age of 75. He will be remembered by his many friends and colleagues as a local businessman who loved football, and promoted the game both locally and nationally.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we recognize and acknowledge David Napier Sington for his many contributions to City of Huntsville sports recreation activities through his personal involvement, both as a popular sports figure and avid enthusiast and sporting goods retailer. He helped provide many hours of enjoyment for local and national football fans through his numerous sporting achievements and endeavors, and will be remembered for his contributions to the advancement of the game locally and nationally for young-at- heart patrons of all ages.

**ADOPTED** this the 28th day of March, 2013.

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President of the City Council of  
the City of Huntsville

**APPROVED** this the 28th day of March, 2013.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville,  
Huntsville