

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION DESIGNATING THE 300 BLOCK OF ARAGON AVENUE AS "NINO PERNETTI WAY" IN HONOR OF CAFFE ABBRACCI OWNER NINO PERNETTI. (SPONSORED BY MAYOR LAGO)

WHEREAS, Perneti was born in post-World War II Italy, in the tiny town of Campione, which was a 30-minute ride on his father's bicycle from the nearest town; and

WHEREAS, One of eight children, Perneti lost his mother at age 3 when both contracted typhus, but he survived; and

WHEREAS, Perneti discovered his interest in hospitality while working in a small bed-and-breakfast in the touristy town of Limone, and eventually enrolled in hospitality school, where he found he preferred working the front of the house to the kitchen; and

WHEREAS, he spent the next 15 years working in some of the top hotels in Europe, the Middle East and Latin America--learning new languages everywhere he went; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Perneti opened his first restaurant, Caffe Baci, in Coral Gables, a lively spot where people came to see and be seen; and

WHEREAS, two year later, Perneti opened Caffe Abbracci just a few blocks away, and he soon realized he preferred the more intimate setting and guests preferred to dine wherever he was situated- so he closed Baci and focused on Abbracci; and

WHEREAS, Perneti projected an air of discretion, personally and at his restaurant; and

WHEREAS, he was an avid reader, and lover of knowledge, and spent countless evenings conversing warmly with his patrons in up to seven different languages; and

WHEREAS, he was well-known and well-loved by the Coral Gables community and greater South Florida region, and many affluent, influential, and famous locals were regulars at Caffe Abbracci; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2019, Nino Perneti was awarded a Key to the City by Coral Gables Mayor Raul Valdeś-Fauli for his contributions to the culinary fabric of the City; and

WHEREAS, Perneti contracted COVID-19 in December 2020, just days after a forthcoming vaccine was announced and struggled with the side effects of the virus for more than a year, passing away from complications on May 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, even in the hospital, he continued reading voraciously and sending texts to his managers at Caffè Abbracci when he couldn't speak; and

WHEREAS, Perneti is survived by siblings Diego, Olivo and Lucia in Italy, and his daughters, Tatiana and Katerina, in Miami; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed March 14, 2022, Nino Perneti Day, and presented a plaque to his daughters, Tatiana and Katerina, as well as his ex-wife Marlén Perneti; and

WHEREAS, The City Commission wishes to recognize Nino Perneti, the long-time business owner of Café Abbracci, by designating the 300 Block of Aragon Avenue as "Nino Perneti Way";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission hereby designates the 300 Block of Aragon Avenue as "Nino Perneti Way" and authorizes the City Manager to erect the appropriate signage.

SECTION 3. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY