

“Cliff Burton Day”

February 10th, 2018

Whereas, *Cliff Lee Burton* was born on February 10, 1962 in Castro Valley, California to Ray and Jan Burton as the youngest of three children, with siblings Scott and Connie Burton, and later attended schools within the Castro Valley Unified School District; and

Whereas, *Cliff Burton* began his formal musical training at the age of six, eventually taking lessons from a local instructor at ABC Music within Castro Valley, progressing from piano lessons to the mastery of bass guitar, as an homage to his late brother Scott who passed away during Cliff’s teenage years; and

Whereas, *Cliff Burton*, as a student at Castro Valley High School, began his own band “EZ Street” along with bandmates Mike Bordin and Jim Martin, eventually forming his second band, “Agents of Misfortune” along with Martin while attending Chabot Community College they successfully entered into Chabot’s 1981 Battle of the Bands contest; and

Whereas, in 1982, *Cliff Burton* joined a bay area local band, “Trauma”, and recorded the song “Such a Shame” which was included in Metal Blade’s “Metal Massacre II” album, helping to advance *Cliff’s* success as he performed in local nightclubs throughout the Bay Area and across California; and

Whereas, *Cliff Burton*, through his talented performance at a Los Angeles nightclub quickly attracted the attention of James Hetfield and Lars Ulrich, who were seeking to form a band of their own, and *Cliff Burton* soon agreed to join the band “Metallica”, which released their first album “Kill ‘Em All” in 1983, featuring *Burton’s* solo single, “Pulling Teeth”; and

Whereas, “Metallica” released their second album, “Ride The Lightning”, in 1984, featuring six songs written by *Cliff Burton*, including “For Whom the Bell Tolls” and “The Call of Ktulu”, gaining widening popularity for “Metallica” and in 1986, “Metallica” released their third album, “Master of Puppets”, which included the songs “Orion” and “Master of Puppets”, widely considered by fans as some of *Burton’s* most accomplished work; and

Whereas, *Cliff Burton* tragically passed away at the age of twenty-four on September 27, 1986, just hours after performing classical guitar in place of the bass for our nation’s Star Spangled Banner to a sold out audience in Stockholm, Sweden, with his ashes later spread at Maxwell Ranch in California,

Now therefore, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California, on this sixth day of February 2018, does hereby honor the life and legacy of *Cliff Burton* and proclaim February 10, 2018 as *Cliff Burton* Day within his home town of Castro Valley and across the County of Alameda, on the occasion of his fifty-sixth birthday.

Wilma Chan, President
Supervisor, Third District

Richard Valle
Supervisor, Second District

Scott Haggerty
Supervisor, First District

Nate Miley
Supervisor, Fourth District

Keith Carson
Supervisor, Fifth District