

**PROCLAMATION NO. 2016-014**

**A PROCLAMATION IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
LEWIS V. “COOTER” SIMPSON**

**WHEREAS**, Lewis V. Simpson has been an integral part of the Trussville community for more than sixty years, most people don’t recognize his name. But, mention “Cooter” Simpson, and everyone knows him, and probably has a “Cooter” story or two to tell; and

**WHEREAS**, Cooter started his career in public service as a utility worker and later as a police officer in the late 1950s, he also became a member of the Trussville Volunteer Fire Department at this time. Cooter left the police department in the 1960s, but remained a faithful volunteer firefighter for most of his working life. Cooter returned to the City of Trussville employee rolls in 1989 as Public Works Superintendent, a job he held for twenty-four years until his retirement in June of 2013. Even after his retirement Cooter continued to assist the Volunteer Fire Department in a support capacity, and to check by City Hall frequently to make sure things were still being handled correctly in his absence; and

**WHEREAS**, Cooter was known for living up to his nick-name at times, and being an “Old Coot,” we all knew that Cooter was always there when you needed him. He helped citizens with roadway and drainage problems, he held people’s hand in times of family emergency, and he rounded up kids walking home from school when danger arose. He was he embodiment of public service; and

**WHEREAS**, Trussville is a better place for having known Cooter Simpson. He leaves a hole in our lives that cannot be filled with a backhoe, and a burning desire to be remembered as fondly as he that cannot be extinguished by a fire hose.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the City Council of the City of Trussville, that a city legend has been lost, and he will not be soon forgotten. We miss you Cooter.

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Buddy Choat, Councilman

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Perry Cook, Councilman

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Anthony Montalto, Council President

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Brian Plant, Councilman

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Alan Taylor, Councilman

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Eugene A. Melton, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn B. Porter, City Clerk