

# THE HONORABLE SAMUEL C. PANNELL

## HE REALLY MADE A DIFFERENCE

It started in June, 1992 with a host of candidates and an election to get through.  
But when the primary votes were tallied, Sam was one of the remaining 2.  
Over the next five months Sam walked District 8 into the late fall.  
That hard work paid off. For at the close of the general election he had won it all.

To the office of City Councilman, Sam was soon thereafter sworn in.  
At Council meetings, Robbie Waters would give him a (you need this vote) kick on the shin.  
You see, the campaign promises Sam made he really intended to keep.  
When it came to fulfilling them he'd tell Bill Edgar don't allow staff to drag their feet.

He took pleasure in engaging Steve Cohn and Darrell Steinberg in spirited debate,  
Then he'd show them a friendly (it's ok) gesture before the night grew too late.  
Yes he'd fuss, raise his voice, bark and was always ready for a good fight.  
Well, his friend Rob Kerth would say, Sam's just a lovable Teddy Bear who would never bite.

During meetings, he would caucus with Mayor Joe Serna, Jimmie Yee, and Heather Fargo too,  
Explaining and discussing neglected improvements in District 8 that were long overdue.  
There were Summer festivals and Santa Sam events to put on, clean ups, and building to be done.  
Sam was a hard taskmaster but he also knew how to make work on these projects a lot of fun.

Speaking of projects to improve and bring pride to the hood, Lauren Hammond said it this way,  
You were on board to work with him or you would soon have you know what to pay.  
Bonnie was the joy of his life, businesses and residents his friends, but he was a brother to the hood.  
On issues involving District 8, you never had to guess. You always knew exactly where he stood.

Around City Hall, his Gumbo, chicken and rib feasts brought smiles to many faces.  
He loved good food and with staff often shared his favorite eating places.  
The restaurants he took me and Jack Crist to for food he was not suppose to eat,  
These are but a few of the secrets Bonnie, he made us promise to keep.

His contributions to the citizens of Sacramento are far too many to list here,  
But for his teaching, coaching, and counseling of our youth, he deserves a big cheer.  
He gave his all to renew in District 8 a true sense of community through a special center,  
And after today we shall always think of Samuel C. Pannell when in this place we enter.

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