



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
*Village of Bloomingdale*  
 PROCLAMATION  
**EMIL GARIPPO DAY**  
**APRIL 1, 2023**

*Whereas*, Emil Garippo was born in Chicago to Jesse and Emil Garippo on April 1, 1923. The families of both his parents had recently immigrated to the US from Italy. He was born in the small flat his parents rented in a poor Little Italy neighborhood, where the University of Illinois/Chicago now sits. Emil was the middle of 3 children; and

*Whereas*, Despite the Great Depression bearing down, Emil recalls an active, happy life growing up. Playing at Hull House and outdoors, long swims out in Lake Michigan, ballgames with his father where he saw Babe Ruth hit a homer, and summers at Bowen County Club for underprivileged children, his older brother Mike always looked after Emil and their younger sister Thomasine; and

*Whereas*, Emil was drafted soon after the bombing at Pearl Harbor, he was a medic & was a veteran of the Normandy campaign in World War II, having landed on the beach 13 days after the initial invasion. In 1944, he received news of the death of his beloved brother Mike, whose courage had led to the capture of 30 German soldiers & was posthumously awarded the Silver Star. Soon after his return home Emil married Dean Rugg, and eventually had three children, Michael, Deanna and Debbie; and

*Whereas*, Graduating with an education degree from DePaul University in 1949, later earning his Master's, he became among the earliest Americans to benefit from the GI Bill & the first in his family with a college degree. He started teaching in Chicago, & became assistant principal of Spalding High, one of the nation's first public schools for children with disabilities. Seeing his talent, the administration brought Emil to the central office to help oversee citywide transportation; and

*Whereas*, Emil lives with his daughter Deanna in the home he & his wife purchased in Bloomingdale, 35 years ago. He still works out daily & enjoys time with his four grandchildren & two great-grandchildren. Beneath Emil's quiet & practical character lives a hero, pioneer & man of compassion; caring for wounded soldiers in World War II, teaching inner city & disabled children, finding a happy home for his family, and acting as his wife's caregiver for almost 20 years.

*Now therefore, be it resolved*, that on the occasion of Emil's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, I, Franco A. Coladipietro, Mayor of Bloomingdale, do hereby proclaim April 1, 2023 to be **Emil Garippo Day** in Bloomingdale. For a century Emil Garippo has put others first and demonstrated how a life can be well and fully lived. We join his family in wishing Emil a very happy birthday!

*In witness thereof, I have herewith set my hand and caused the seal of this village to be affixed.*

Mayor 

Date: July 24, 2023

