



## Resolution in Honor of Sumner Murray Redstone

***Be It Resolved***, that the National Association of Theatre Owners in its meeting on 7 October 2020, wishes to express its great sorrow over the death of one of its most respected colleagues and volunteers.

***WHEREAS***, Sumner departed this life on 11 August 2020 in Los Angeles, CA; and,

***WHEREAS***, he was born 27 May 1923 in Boston, MA, to Belle and Michael Rothstein; and,

***WHEREAS***, he attended the Boston Latin School, from which he graduated first in his class. In 1944, he graduated from Harvard College, where he completed the studies for his baccalaureate in three years; and,

***WHEREAS***, he served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II with a team at the Signals Intelligence Service that decoded Japanese messages. He received two military commendations for his service; and,

***WHEREAS***, after his military service, he worked in Washington, D.C., and attended Georgetown University Law Center. He transferred to Harvard Law School and received his law degree in 1947; and,

***WHEREAS***, in 1954, he joined his father's theater chain, National Amusements and in 1967, he became CEO of the company; and,

***WHEREAS***, National Amusements, using the Viacom subsidiary name, made a string of large acquisitions in the early 1990s, announcing plans to merge with Paramount Communications (parent company of Paramount Pictures) in 1993. The acquisition of Paramount made Viacom one of the world's largest entertainment companies; and,

***WHEREAS***, he believed that content would become more important than distribution mechanisms: channels of distribution (in varied forms) would always exist, but content would always be essential. He coined the phrase, "Content is king!"; and,

***WHEREAS***, he served as President of NATO from 1964 to 1965, then NATO Chairman in 1966, instrumental in the merger between Allied States Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors (Allied) and the Theater Owners of America (TOA), which became known as the National Association of Theatre Owners; and,

***WHEREAS***, he donated to causes fighting poverty and disease through the Sumner M. Redstone Charitable Foundation; and,

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the National Association of Theatre Owners sincerely regrets the loss of one of its most accomplished and respected leaders.

***ALSO BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that this ***RESOLUTION*** be made a part of the permanent minutes, and records of the National Association of Theatre Owners, and that a copy be presented to the family of Sumner M. Redstone.

The Advisory Board and  
The Executive Board  
National Association of Theatre Owners  
ZOOM Webinar  
7 October 2020



Sumner Murray Redstone  
1923-2020