

This letter was sent to the Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution today.

September 19, 1966

To the Editor:

UPGRADED or DEGRADED?

It is hereby suggested that citizens of Atlanta proclaim a MAYOR IVAN ALLEN APPRECIATION DAY in honor of the illustrious (and commonsense) mayor. He was directly responsible for quelling possible riots instigated by angry individuals giving vent to their feelings after unfortunate shooting incidents on North Boulevard Street and other areas.

A writer has viewed his opinion that the scene of the mayor being jostled from an automobile top to the ground only to land on his knees before the rioting crowd was 'degrading.' Frankly, my first thought was that the mayor was most agile in picking himself up before anyone could start a count-down to ten.

As can be expected of any brave and honorable General he was there ready to go into battle with his men on the battlefield, if need be. However, the peppery mayor was on the scene placating in the capacity of peacemaker.

The aforementioned writer who 'fired' me up to write this letter has added that it was a 'sickening experience' to see the mayor jeered and chanted down on Boulevard.

Just a reminder that another peacemaker at another time carried his cross to Calvary amidst jeers and cheers and has been revered for two thousand years for his complete dedication to his God-given purpose of bringing light and truth and peace into the world.

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