

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 87

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Kathy Coatney Mays of Chester County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Kathy Jane Bailey Coatney Mays; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Mays was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional educator who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on August 23, 1942, to Brady and Violet Bailey, Kathy Mays was co-valedictorian of her graduating class at Chester County High School. She graduated from Freed-Hardeman University, at the time a two-year institution, and moved to Paris, where she taught elementary school while in simultaneous pursuit of further education at Murray State University; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Mays returned to her home community in Chester County, where she served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher at Jacks Creek Elementary School while earning a master's degree in administrative education from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, after finishing her degree, Kathy Mays left the classroom and became a system-level supervisor in, and superintendent of, the Chester County School System for the next few decades; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mays's career was spent garnering the respect of students, peers, and constituents alike for the exemplary quality of her work, and she was acknowledged by professional organizations and sororities to which she belonged as an outstanding education leader; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Mays was an active and devout member of Jacks Creek Community of Christ Church; she attended from childhood and served God faithfully for many decades; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mays was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband Billy Coatney, a sister, a brother, and a brother-in-law; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Coatney Mays enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, Ralph Mays, and was the proud parent of stepchildren Tara Carson and Mickey Mays. She relished the adoration of her step-granddaughter, Rachel Herbert, and her step-great-grandsons, Henry and Will Herbert; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Mays loved God, family, and friends, and she leaves an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Kathy Coatney Mays, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Mays.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.