



State of Tennessee

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 61

By Senator Yager

and

Representative Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charlotte Diann "DeeDee" Stephens of Oneida.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Charlotte Diann "DeeDee" Stephens of Oneida; and

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

WHEREAS, born on May 13, 1958, to Floyd Harold Clark and Anna Ruth Laxton Clark, Mrs. Stephens graduated from Oneida High School in 1976 and began her career of committed employ at Highland Telephone, eventually serving as the Human Resource Director for over thirty-two years; and

WHEREAS, she gave much of her time and passion to the betterment of others, and she led several charitable organizations in addition to her service as a longstanding member of the Scott County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, thoughtful of this world and the next, Mrs. Stephens was a woman of outstanding faith, hope, and love and was a devoted member of The Paint Rock Baptist Church, where she was the youth choir director; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her husband of thirty-one years, James Rodney Stephens; her sons, Kelby Grant Stephens, Payton Hunter Stephens, and Drake Christian Stephens; her sisters, Cheryl Clark (Mike) Anderson, Laurel Clark (Roger) Ward, and Dara Hope Clark (Bill) Jenkins; her grandmother Eunice Mae Weaver Cotton; her aunts Patricia Laxton and Jewell Dean (Grover) Gilbert; her uncle Arzo Carson; her nieces and nephews, April Anderson, Robbie Foster, Alyssa Marcum, Grayson Buttram, Tyler Lane, and Hadley Jo Marcum; her special cousins, Scarlett Wirt and Jared (Michelle) Carson; members of the Oneida High School Class of 1976; and several other family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her grandparents, Ohlen and Loma Wright Laxton and Robert and Lottie Clark; her father-in-law, Cecil Stephens; her aunts, Shirley Laxton Carson, Evelyn Laxton King, Frances Sexton, Lucy Myers, Velma Neels, and Naomi Silcox; and her uncles, Brian Laxton, Willie Clark, Herman Clark, Robert Clark, Forest Clark, Ralph Clark, and Glen Clark; and

WHEREAS, a loving wife, mother, sister, and friend, Mrs. Stephens leaves behind 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 THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charlotte Diann "DeeDee" Stephens of Oneida, 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 Mrs. Stephens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.


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ADOPTED: February 2, 2023


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 10th day of February 2023


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR