

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 60

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ellen Carter Armstrong of Rogersville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dorothy "Ellen" Carter Armstrong; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Armstrong 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 in Rolla, Missouri, on January 5, 1947, Ellen Armstrong lived in many states before she graduated from Bluff City High School in Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, an English and business major at East Tennessee State University, Mrs. Armstrong earned her bachelor's degree, completed the Elementary Changeover and Kindergarten Certification programs, and received a master's degree in education supervision and administration at that institution; and

WHEREAS, Ellen Carter Armstrong served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher, earning the respect of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, repeatedly recognized as an outstanding educator, Ellen Armstrong began her thirty-six-year teaching career at Church Hill High School, where she taught English, Business English, and Shorthand for one year before accepting a teaching position at Sullivan East High School, where she taught for three years; and

WHEREAS, following her marriage to Clayton Armstrong, Mrs. Armstrong returned to Hawkins County, where she taught kindergarten for thirty-two years at Hawkins Elementary and Joseph Rogers Primary. She took great pride in watching her students become successful young adults; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the joys of teaching, she loved her cats, beautiful music, dancing to Motown tunes of the 1960s and 1970s, working in her flower gardens, and visiting with her close friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, an active and dedicated community servant, Mrs. Armstrong supported numerous projects and charities, including Rogersville United Methodist Church projects, Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, Of One Accord Ministry, Rogersville Heritage Association, Hawkins County Humane Society, Price Public Community Center, the Salvation Army, and the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, after her confirmation in the Lutheran faith, Ellen Armstrong joined Trinity Lutheran Church in Bristol. In later years, she transferred her membership to Rogersville First United Methodist Church, where she served faithfully for many years on numerous committees and as a talented choir member; and

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

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her loving father, Ward J. Carter; her father- and mother-in-law, Clayton P. and Virginia B. Armstrong; her two brothers-in-law, Ron Morrell and Kenneth Reimann; her sister-in-law, Connie Armstrong Reimann; and her special niece, Wendy Armstrong Douthat; and

WHEREAS, her memory will be cherished by her husband of more than forty years, Edmund "Clayton" Armstrong, the love of her life, best friend, and primary caregiver; her mother, Mrs. Florence Whalen Carter; her sisters, Cathy (Steve) Quinn, Nancy (Stu) Saunders, and Amanda (Tom) Sheahan; her brother, Tim (Teresa) Carter; her brothers-in-law, Clinton (Linda) Armstrong and Orville (Geraldine) Armstrong; several nieces and nephews, and many close friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Armstrong 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 remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ellen Carter Armstrong, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Armstrong.

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