

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 869

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Brenda Louise Smith Allred of Jamestown.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Brenda Louise Smith Allred of Jamestown; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Allred brought endless joy and laughter to her family and to the world with her bright sense of humor, ingenious creativity, and compassionate heart; and

WHEREAS, born in Oneida on August 20, 1956, Brenda Allred was the fifth of six children born to George Caldwell Smith, a minister, and Edith Mae Hull Smith; she grew up in the Mt. Helen community of Fentress County surrounded by her family and many cousins, and she frequently traveled throughout the region to see her father pastor; and

WHEREAS, at the age of seven, before her feet could reach the pedals, Mrs. Allred began regularly playing piano in church; at the age of nine, she gave her life to Christ at Honey Creek United Baptist Church during a revival service with Brother Earl Ellis, and she was baptized shortly after on July 10, 1966; and

WHEREAS, she continued to hone her musical talents, and at fifteen years old, she began playing piano for a musical group her brother joined, The Gospel Melodyaires; she caught the eye of fellow group member Freddy Allred, who pursued her and who she later married on April 21, 1973; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Allred started a business alongside her husband following her high school graduation; BaLou's Men's Store, an homage to the couple's names, sold men's clothes and suits. The business quickly expanded into an adjoining space and sold flooring and paint, and eventually, Amway; and

WHEREAS, BaLou's continued to grow into a large hardware store, an HWI Do-It Center, and a furniture business; their entrepreneurial success won Mr. and Mrs. Allred several trips around the world, which created many opportunities and gave them a broader sense of the world and cultures; and

WHEREAS, Brenda and Fred Allred established Faith Baptist Tabernacle in 1980, with a small group of family and friends by their sides, and later, Faith Christian Academy; together, the two went on to establish Mission Point Jubilee, Bible Believers Network, and New Life Studios, which now broadcasts Christian radio throughout the region and the Great Smoky Mountains; and

WHEREAS, she also poured herself into her community through various organizations and ministries; Brenda Allred was a board member of the Handfuls of the Harvest Mission and Soup Kitchen, in which she worked assiduously to support the organization's mission and help others in need; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allred regularly attended the National Religious Broadcasters Convention with her husband, and she worked alongside the church staff, radio station staff, and school staff as a mentor and friend; and

WHEREAS, a devoted woman of worship, Mrs. Allred was proud to be a pastor's wife for nearly forty years; she was a church pianist, taught Sunday School to hundreds of young girls, and gave time and attention to nurture and disciple those who crossed her path; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Allred was also deeply devoted to her family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; she frequently opened her home to host ministers, missionaries, friends, family, and the community, and she enjoyed cooking, setting the table, and decorating with a precision she had maintained since her childhood; and

WHEREAS, she will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by her beloved husband of fifty years, Baley Fred Allred III; her sons, Baley Fred Allred IV, Jonathan Douglas (Kendra) Allred, and Andrew Marcus Allred; her daughter, Bethany LaShea (Bryan) Walker; her cherished grandchildren, Bingham Walker, Bayla Walker, Bryson Walker, Boston Walker, Ayla Allred, Jett Allred, Ella Allred, and Evan Allred; her brothers, Curtis (Kathy) Smith, Daniel (Lavonna) Smith, and Vernon (Chandra) Smith; her sisters, Vera (Brady) Goad and Sharon (Paul) Ellis; her mother-in-law, JoElla Allred; her brother-in-law, Jonathan (Karen) Allred; her sisters-in-law, Paula (John) Allred and Judy Smith; her dear friends, Loretta Smith and Nancy Cravens; and a host of nieces, nephews, family members, and friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, Mrs. Allred was preceded in death by her father-in-law, Dr. B.F. Allred, and her brother, David Smith; and

WHEREAS, the epitome of joy and mirth, Mrs. Allred served her faith and community with distinction; she was a devoted friend to those who were blessed to know her, and she 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 hereby honor the memory of Brenda Louise Smith Allred, 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. Allred.

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.