

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY REPRESENTATIVE DEVILLIER

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Alvenia Clare.

WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives were saddened beyond measure upon receiving word that the grandmother of Attorney Ashleigh Clare-Kearney passed away on March 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia 'Joan' Clare was one of five children born to Amy Clare and was affectionately known by her family as "Cher"; and

WHEREAS, she was born on May 1, 1929 in Westmoreland, Jamaica where she lived until 1957; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia later moved to Luton, Bedfordshire, England where she had her one and only child, Diane Clare-Kearney in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia came to the United States of America in 1970 with nothing to her name, but she strongly desired to seek a better life for herself and her daughter, which she accomplished; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life she was a caretaker for the elderly, a housekeeper, a seamstress, and worked at Travelers; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia was a member and Deacon at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford, Connecticut for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, her hobbies included cooking Jamaican food for her family every night, watching soap operas, listening to church music, knitting, and spoiling her grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia never put herself first and did everything in her power to ensure her daughter and grandchildren had all the tools necessary to achieve their goals; and

WHEREAS, she is responsible for her daughter earning her bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D., and is the reason her granddaughter, Ashleigh Clare-Kearney, is an attorney; and

WHEREAS, she was a woman of class, integrity, and wisdom and courageously fought Alzheimer's Disease for eleven years; and

WHEREAS, in the last three years, she completely lost her independence, but she lived with her daughter who cared for her vigilantly until her passing; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Alvenia has left her family with a tremendous void; and

WHEREAS, she was truly the family's matriarch, and her loving and kind spirit will be missed dearly; and

WHEREAS, Alvenia 'Joan' Clare passed away on March 25, 2020, at the age of ninety after testing positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her daughter, Diane Clare-Kearney; son in law, Craig Kearney; three granddaughters: Charissa Kearney, Ashleigh Clare-Kearney, and Teighlor Clare-Kearney; and a host of nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, her favorite song to sing to her granddaughters as they grew up happens to be Louisiana's State Song, "You Are My Sunshine".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Alvenia 'Joan' Clare and does hereby extend deepest sympathy and offer of hopes for comfort and peace in this time of sorrow.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ashleigh Clare-Kearney for the family of Alvenia 'Joan' Clare.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES