

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 86

BY SENATOR PETERSON

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Allie Mae "Shirley" Young Singleton.

WHEREAS, it is with sadness that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of Allie Mae "Shirley" Young Singleton, age seventy-six, on May 31, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Allie Mae Young, a native of Hazlehurst, Mississippi, graduated from Parish High School; met her future husband, Jim Singleton, during his summer visit to his family's Mississippi farm, about fifteen miles outside of Hazlehurst; and the young couple married and moved to New Orleans in the 1950s; and

WHEREAS, she attended Katie's Beauty and Barber School and also served an internship with Ida Beal's Beauty Salon before opening her own shop in the basement of the family home on General Taylor Street; and

WHEREAS, her friends have stated that Shirley was a one-woman enterprise who relied on word-of-mouth advertising that helped her build a stable of loyal customers in the early 1960s; and

WHEREAS, she owned and operated the Parisian Beauty Den in Broadmoor for about twenty-five years before rheumatoid arthritis forced her to close the business in the mid-1980s; and

WHEREAS, while Shirley Singleton was a fervent supporter of her husband's political career, she maintained a low public profile during his three decades of government service, which included a twenty-four year tenure on the New Orleans City Council and an unsuccessful bid for mayor in 2002; and

WHEREAS, though Shirley Singleton preferred to stay in the background during appearances at fundraising and community events, her husband of fifty-six years said she didn't hold her tongue when he was hit with criticism; and

WHEREAS, Allie Mae "Shirley" Singleton was a member of St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church for more than fifty-five years and served on the church's Thanksgiving Committee; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her husband; a son, James M. Singleton Jr.; a daughter, Jacquelin P. Singleton; two sisters, Vera Jean Young James and Rosie Louise Young James; and two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Allie Mae "Shirley" Singleton, according to those who knew her, never was one who sought the spotlight but was more interested in being a great mother and a person who would speak her mind if she had something to say; and

WHEREAS, while her death leaves a tremendous void with her family and friends and in her community, her memory shall forever remain alive in their minds and hearts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Allie Mae "Shirley" Young Singleton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Allie Mae "Shirley" Singleton.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE