

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 6

Introduced by Geist, 25; Albrecht, 17; Blood, 3; Bolz, 29; Cavanaugh, 6; Crawford, 45; DeBoer, 10; Howard, 9; Hunt, 8; Linehan, 39; Pansing Brooks, 28; Slama, 1; Walz, 15; Wishart, 27.

WHEREAS, Ruth Raymond Thone served as Nebraska's first lady from 1979 to 1983; and

WHEREAS, Ruth was born November 21, 1931, in Scottsbluff to Jack L. and Ruth (Thaxter) Raymond; and

WHEREAS, Ruth met Charley Thone during an interview while she was the editor of the University of Nebraska's student newspaper in 1952. They were married on August 16, 1953; and

WHEREAS, Ruth was known as a lively spirit. She was named the National Organization for Women's Nebraska Woman of the Year in 1999 and honored as the Nebraska Press Women's Communicator of Achievement in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ruth was the author of three books and countless articles for newspapers and magazines, a commentator on Nebraska Public Radio, a Nebraska Humanities Council scholar and speaker, and led classes on women and aging, women and appearance issues, self-esteem, values realization, negative criticism, and writing; and

WHEREAS, Ruth was active in a variety of community and social justice organizations. She co-founded the Gathering Place and the Friends of Loren Eiseley and participated in Alternatives to the Military - Lincoln, Nebraskans for Peace, the Palestine Solidarity Committee, anti-war coalitions, advocating for civil rights for lesbians and gays, Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty, the Center for Rural Affairs, alcohol and drug recovery organizations, the Lincoln Friends Meeting, the Central American Response Team, Common Cause (national board member), Nebraska Common Cause, the Junior League of Lincoln (treasurer), Delta Gamma, the Nebraska Society of Washington, D.C. (former president), and the Congressional Wives Prayer Group (leader); and

WHEREAS, Ruth and Charley had three daughters: Anna Salmeron, a nurse and photographer in Boston; Marie Thone, an editor in Vancouver; and Amy Thone, an actor and Shakespeare teacher in Seattle. The couple was also blessed with two granddaughters, Charlotte and Stella; and

WHEREAS, Ruth's husband, Governor Charley Thone, passed away on March 7, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Thone passed away on May 3, 2018, at the age of 86.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature honors Ruth Raymond Thone for her spirit and dedication.
2. That the Legislature extends deep sympathy to the family of Ruth Raymond Thone.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Ruth Raymond Thone.