

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 113

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 HONORING LILY GONZALES FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW
12 MEXICO.

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14 WHEREAS, "Though she be but little, she is fierce!" is a
15 quote from William Shakespeare that aptly described Lily
16 Gonzales, a five-foot tall former Santa Fe police officer and
17 probate judge who died on February 20, 2019 in Santa Fe; and

18 WHEREAS, Lily was born on June 20, 1934 in Santa Fe; and

19 WHEREAS, Lily's parents were deaf, so Lily learned to sign
20 to communicate with them and never forgot the importance of
21 tight family bonds; and

22 WHEREAS, Lily was resourceful and learned to make her own
23 clothes and valued taking care of people; and

24 WHEREAS, Lily was a trailblazer when she became a Santa Fe
25 police officer in the early 1960s; and

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1 WHEREAS, Lily was the first female officer with the Santa
2 Fe police department to make law enforcement a career and was
3 the first woman to retire from the department with about twenty
4 years of service; and

5 WHEREAS, Lily was an investigator, a dispatcher and a
6 community liaison with the department, jobs that exposed her to
7 some horrific crime scenes as well as the rewards of
8 interacting with schools and community organizations; and

9 WHEREAS, through her long law enforcement career, Lily
10 never had any issues with being small and making arrests; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1998, Lily was looking for a new career when a
12 friend mentioned the county probate court judge was about to
13 retire; and

14 WHEREAS, Lily entered the race, was elected, and served as
15 probate judge for twelve years; and

16 WHEREAS, as a probate judge, Lily officiated at weddings
17 at the Santa Fe county courthouse and even hosted some weddings
18 in her home in the Bellamah neighborhood and at fancy venues;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, seeing the complications that often ensued when
21 someone died without a will and the estate had to be probated,
22 Lily always stressed the importance of having a will; and

23 WHEREAS, Lily was preceded in death by her sons, John and
24 Leonard C de Baca; and

25 WHEREAS, Lily is survived by her husband, Miguel Gonzales;

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1 her daughter, Miquela Gonzales; six grandchildren and eleven
2 great-granchildren;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
4 OF NEW MEXICO that Lily Gonzales be honored for her dedication
5 to New Mexico and her many years of public service in law
6 enforcement and as a probate judge; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the family of Lily Gonzales.

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