

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 133

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Louise McCracken Crowe of Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Louise McCracken Crowe, the mother of our colleague Senator Rusty Crowe; and

WHEREAS, Louise Crowe was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Louise McCracken Crowe was born at her family's farm in Washington County on May 9, 1922, the second of three children born to V.M. "Happy" McCracken and Eileen Fitzgerald McCracken; and

WHEREAS, a 1940 graduate of Washington College Academy, Louise Crowe began her involvement with the Democratic Party at a young age, volunteering with political campaigns, and she studied voice and sang soprano as the only student invited to join her church choir; she enrolled at East Tennessee State University, but she left school to join the war effort in Washington, D.C., after the United States entered World War II; and

WHEREAS, she met John W. Crowe, an Army Air Corps pilot, whom she married in Silver Spring, Maryland, after he was discharged from the Army; the couple then moved to Knoxville where Mr. Crowe graduated from the University of Tennessee; they later lived in Africa, Spain, and Asia; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her career, Mrs. Crowe chose jobs that were focused on people, including working at the Jonesborough Visitor's Center and the National Storytelling Center's bookstore, from which she retired at the age of eighty; for many years, she hosted storytellers and friends from around the world during the Storytelling Festival; and

WHEREAS, a longtime community leader and political advocate whose belief in democracy fueled her deepest passion, Louise Crowe was a full-time volunteer for the Democrat Resource Center in Johnson City for many years and an advocate of women's issues; she was honored for her activism and accomplishments during the 2019 Women's March in Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Crowe was an active and devout member of Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for fifty-six years; and

WHEREAS, she was deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Louise Crowe was the proud mother of State Senator D.E. "Rusty" (Sarah) Crowe, John David (Teresa) Crowe, and William Christopher Crowe and the devoted grandmother of Dr. Katie Crow (Jordan) Broyles and John Barron Crowe; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John William Crowe; her brother, Gerald McCracken; and her sister, Kay McCracken Cereghino; and

WHEREAS, Louise McCracken 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 remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Louise McCracken Crowe, 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. Crowe.

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.