

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 701

Offered February 2, 2021

Celebrating the life of Helen Dukas.

Patrons—Keam; Senator: Petersen

WHEREAS, Helen Dukas, businesswoman and beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, died on June 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a native of New York City, Helen Dukas grew up around the floral business, as her parents and uncles owned and operated a florist shop; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Helen Dukas married the love of her life, William, and, following a brief period of residence in Kansas City, Kansas, settled in McLean; and

WHEREAS, shortly after settling into their new home, Helen and William, together with Helen's parents, George and Mary Raptis, opened Karin's Florist at Seven Corners Center in 1956; years later, Karin's Florist would relocate to Vienna, where it has operated ever since, enjoying fame as one of the premier floral businesses in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while Helen Dukas was proud of her business and professional accomplishments, she was most proud of her family, whom she loved dearly; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her beloved husband, William, Helen Dukas will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by her children, Karin, George, and Maris; 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Helen Dukas, businesswoman and beloved member of the McLean community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Helen Dukas as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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