

2011 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5048

Celebrating the life of Gwendolyn D. Thompson.

Agreed to by the Senate, July 29, 2011

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, July 29, 2011

WHEREAS, Gwendolyn D. Thompson, a former educator and admired civic supporter from Locust Grove, died on June 17, 2011; and

WHEREAS, a native of Augusta, Georgia, Gwendolyn "Gwen" Thompson graduated from Bridgewater College and taught middle school for several years, working diligently to create a positive learning environment in which all of her students could excel; and

WHEREAS, a year after graduating from college, Gwen Thompson married the love of her life, Tommy; they had one son, Steve, whom she delighted in raising while remaining engaged in numerous civic organizations in the Sterling area; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Gwen Thompson kept Sterling Park residents abreast of special events and local happenings by managing an information sign for the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Thompson was particularly passionate about having a safe outdoor area that provided recreational opportunities for local children and families; and

WHEREAS, an enthusiastic volunteer, Gwen Thompson worked diligently alongside fellow neighbors and friends to develop Briar Patch Park, a five-acre park that is now managed by Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department; and

WHEREAS, Briar Patch Park has three creative playground units, a picnic pavilion, and volleyball, tennis, and basketball courts where local residents can enjoy the outdoors, engage in athletic pursuits, and gather with friends and family; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Gwen Thompson moved with her husband to Locust Grove and immediately contributed to the area as a member of the Paynes Farm Homeowners Association, eventually serving as its president several times; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Thompson will be honored for her selfless service to create a community gathering place when Briar Patch Park is renamed The Gwen Thompson Briar Patch Park; and

WHEREAS, a devoted wife and mother, Gwen Thompson will be greatly missed by her husband, Tommy; son, Steve; daughter-in-law, Tresha; grandchildren, Evan and Nathan; and numerous other family members, friends, and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a respected citizen of the Commonwealth, Gwendolyn D. Thompson; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Gwendolyn D. Thompson as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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