

House Resolution No. 196

Whereas, it is with profound sadness that the Missouri House of Representatives pauses to honor posthumously two stalwart members of the Washington family in St. Louis who shared fifty-five years of love, faithfulness, and visionary guidance of their children and grandchildren; and

Whereas, on January 8, 2003, Rita Louise Washington went to heaven and joined her beloved husband, Arthur L. Washington, who had departed this life on April 2, 2001; and

Whereas, Rita and Arthur L. Washington were devout Roman Catholics who worshiped and held numerous positions of leadership and service at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis; and

Whereas, with a strong appreciation for the benefits of education, Rita graduated from DuQuoin Township High School in Illinois, attended Southern Illinois Normal University in Carbondale, and graduated from Tucker Business College in St. Louis, while Arthur pursued his schooling at Sumner High School, Southern Illinois Normal University, and New York University; and

Whereas, married on December 30, 1945, after Rita's constant prayers brought her fiancé safely home from the battlefields of World War II, Rita and Arthur Washington established a family which joyfully grew to embrace children, Michael and his wife, Julie; twins Rita and Robert; Rodney and his wife, Pamela; Susan; Richard and his wife, Clementine; and Ronald; and eight wonderful grandchildren, Arthur M., Jr., Celia, and Lynn, Nicole, Rodney, Jr., and Ashley, Erin and Eric; and

Whereas, the lifetime accomplishments realized by Rita and Arthur Washington have enriched the bond uniting family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues in a true spirit of brotherly love; and

Whereas, although they now miss their beloved patriarch and matriarch, Washington family members find tremendous satisfaction in shared, positive memories filled with vitality, strength, and laughter:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to commemorate the loving achievements garnered down through the years by Arthur and Rita Washington and to convey to all of those who must now forego their warmth and light in life this legislative body's most heartfelt condolences; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in remembrance of the late Arthur L. and Rita L. Washington of St. Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Amber (Holly) Boykins
 District No. 60

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 196, adopted January 29, 2003.

 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker