

## House Resolution No. 1378

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are continually impressed with the longevity experienced by those citizens who attain the status of nonagenarian and pause to recognize this tremendous milestone in the life of an esteemed resident of Stafford, Missouri; and

**Whereas**, God brought not one, but two special gifts to this great nation in 1913, with the births of adorable twin infants by the names of Cleo and Cletus, both of whom would put a twinkle in people's eyes and fill their hearts with love and joy; and

**Whereas**, on February 19, 2003, in Springfield, Cleo E. Montgomery commemorated the resplendent occasion of her Ninetieth Birthday with family members, including her twin brother Cletus E. Ward; their ninety-three-year-old sister, Edna Coats; Mr. Ward's wife of more than sixty-five years, Alice Ward; and Edna's daughter, Marilyn Ice of Houston; and

**Whereas**, while celebrating her birthday, Cleo Montgomery had the opportunity to reminisce about raising her children alone after the untimely death of her husband in 1947, working various jobs to support her loved ones, and playing the piano and singing at local churches and funerals in the Missouri community of Cabool, where she lived most of her life; and

**Whereas**, Cleo Montgomery has had the privilege of watching her family grow to include her children and their spouses, Gerald and Margaret Montgomery of Fair Grove, Eric and Debby Montgomery of Springfield, Joann and Hubert Harral of Fair Grove, Shirley and Don Kittrell of St. Louis, Betty and Leroy Throckmorton of Fort Washington, Maryland, and Jackie Montgomery (deceased); seventeen grandchildren, two of whom, Kaia and Marty Harral, passed away in 1981; and thirteen great-grandchildren; and

**Whereas**, at the respectful age of 90, Cleo Montgomery still enjoys playing and singing for her fellow residents at Strafford Care Center, where her pleasant disposition, cheerful smile, and optimistic outlook on life serve as an inspiration to all who know and love her:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations and special birthday greetings to Cleo Montgomery at this significant milestone and in wishing her peace and contentment as she continues to enjoy her golden years; 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 for Cleo E. Montgomery, as a measure of our esteem for her.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative Michael L. Cunningham  
 District No. 145

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. 1378, adopted April 3, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker