

House Resolution No. 3901

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives wholeheartedly believe that a successful marriage forms a firm foundation for a lifetime of happiness and security and wish to salute an outstanding Missouri couple whose union confirms that philosophy; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Willard, cherished residents of Van Buren, Missouri, commemorated the resplendent occasion of their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary with a festive celebration at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gentry Burrows in Van Buren; and

Whereas, joined in marriage before the eyes of the Lord on August 27, 1954, Melvin E. Willard and Jean VanWinkle began their lives together as husband and wife after a memorable wedding ceremony officiated by the Reverend C.A. Love at the Assembly of God Parsonage; and

Whereas, a proud father and caring husband, Mr. Willard provided a safe and secure future for his loved ones as a stellar employee of the Miami, Arizona Copper Company for many years while somehow finding the time and energy for affiliation with the Amateur Trapshooting Association, National Rifle Association, the Amateur Tennis Association, and the Van Buren High School Alumni Association; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Mrs. Willard enjoyed her family immensely and further distinguished herself as an educator for thirty years and member of the GFWC Queen Anne Civic Club, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Missouri State Teachers Association, and the Arizona Education Association, just to name a few; and

Whereas, Melvin and Jean Willard attribute their fifty years of wedded success and happiness to their strong sense of faith and family, the foundation upon which they have planted the seeds of their love and respect for each other in the generations to follow which include their son, Wade Willard; and their three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, throughout their blissful union, Melvin and Jean Willard have remained devoted life partners and have put forth a tremendous amount of effort to ensure the sanctity of the vows they took so very long ago:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in a thunderous round of applause for Melvin and Jean Willard upon the glorious celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and in wishing them tremendous peace and contentment as they proudly continue their journey along life's path; 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 Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Willard.

Offered by _____
Representative Mike Dethrow
District No. 153

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3901, adopted August 24, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker