

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY SENATORS FOIL AND FESI

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Keith Whipple.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Keith Mitchell Michael Whipple, age eighty-two, on January 16, 2021, after a courageous twelve-year battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Keith Whipple was born on August 27, 1938, and was a native and resident of Bourg, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, he loved practicing law and enjoyed a long and successful career of over fifty-eight years as a prosecutor, trial attorney, and indigent defender; and

WHEREAS, Keith was admitted to practice before federal courts, state courts, and the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, he mentored many attorneys throughout his career and was the lead attorney in several landmark cases; and

WHEREAS, Keith also served as a campaign advisor and consultant for many who sought and held public office; and

WHEREAS, he served as First Assistant District Attorney prosecuting major felonies, was a founding member of the Indigent Defender Board to provide legal services for the poor, was honored by the Terrebonne Parish Bar Association for his many accomplishments, and received the Elton Darcey Lifetime Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Keith Whipple was honored as an LSU Golden Graduate by the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU; and

WHEREAS, he was a past Grand Exalted Ruler of the Houma Elks Club, member of the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office Flying Posse, and founder and first P.T.C. President of St. Matthew's Episcopal School; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Keith was an accomplished outdoorsman, who loved

to hunt and fish with his children, grandchildren, and friends; he loved farming his property and generously shared the citrus he cultivated and grew; and he was an avid pilot and for many years, owned and flew his own airplane; and

WHEREAS, in his retirement, Keith enjoyed precious time with his children and grandchildren, teaching them to love and respect the beauty of the outdoors and how to be a good steward of our planet; and

WHEREAS, Keith was preceded in death by his mother, Lola Ann Whipple; and his granddaughter, Jillian Erica Keating; and

WHEREAS, Keith is survived by his beloved wife, Judge Vanessa Lee Guidry Whipple; children, Walter Kirk Whipple and wife, Marilyn Morales, Amy Elizabeth Whipple Anderson and husband, Greg, Ricky James Whipple and fiancé, Dominique Bonvillain, and Dr. Christopher Keith Whipple and wife, Perrine Chaumont; grandchildren, Brendan Joseph Keating and wife, Megan Durham, Calvin Blake Anderson, Juliette Clara Whipple, and Pierre Christopher Whipple; and

WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life, the death of Keith Whipple has left a void in his community and his state; and has created a genuine sense of profound sorrow for his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to have known him; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of men like Keith Whipple who use their considerable talents and resources to help create a better place to live for future generations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize, acknowledge, and honor the life of Keith Whipple, pay tribute to his remarkable legacy, and extend sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Keith Whipple on the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his widow, Judge Vanessa Lee Guidry Whipple.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE