

By: Miles, et al.

S.R. No. 647

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Jeanne Beulah Franklin Samuels, longtime editor of the
3 *Jewish Herald Voice*, on May 12, 2023, at the age of 99; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Louis and Edith Franklin, the former
5 Jeanne Franklin was born in Casper, Wyoming, on December 26, 1923;
6 her family moved to Wichita Falls and then settled in Houston, where
7 she grew up with three siblings, Jack, Bob, and Gay; after
8 graduating from Lamar High School, she attended The University of
9 Texas for a year until her beloved mother fell ill; she met her
10 future husband, Joe Samuels, while waiting at a bus stop, and they
11 wed on August 4, 1943; as a cadet in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he was
12 supposed to be single, so she followed him secretly to every duty
13 station until he shipped out to the European Theater; during World
14 War II, she was employed by the Houston Area Rent Control Office of
15 the Office of Price Administration; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Samuels were blessed with a son, Marc,
17 and two daughters, Maurene and Vicki; while raising their children,
18 they owned a record and electronics store and an insurance agency;
19 they found their calling on April 1, 1973, when they purchased the
20 *Jewish Herald-Voice*, then a 65-year-old publication; dedicated to
21 serving the region's Jewish community, they spent long hours
22 reporting on events, opining on issues, and demonstrating support
23 for the State of Israel; in order to cover the concerns of their
24 readers, they added pages even when it was not helpful to the bottom

1 line; when they wrote about their international travel, their
2 accounts often moved readers to donate to Jewish causes in Israel
3 and around the world; their contributions were recognized by
4 numerous local and national organizations, both secular and
5 faith-based; following the death of Mr. Samuels in 2011,
6 Mrs. Samuels continued to serve as editor and publisher until she
7 was 98; and

8 WHEREAS, The Samuels home was always open to family and
9 friends who needed a place to stay; the couple loved having slumber
10 parties for their grandchildren, Matt, Benjamin, Caroline, Wendy,
11 Daniel, Kimberly, Amy "Adina," Michael, David, Sam, and Rebekah;
12 Mrs. Samuels got them ready for bed by reading from *A Child's Garden*
13 *of Verses* and other favorites; she baked beautiful birthday cakes,
14 tended a large vegetable garden, and adored the family's boxers and
15 other pets; kind and compassionate, she began delivering Meals on
16 Wheels at the age of 89; and

17 WHEREAS, Although Jeanne Samuels is deeply missed, her
18 devotion to her family, her faith, and her community will remain a
19 source of tremendous inspiration to all who were privileged to know
20 her; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
22 hereby pay tribute to the life of Jeanne Beulah Franklin Samuels and
23 extend sincere sympathy to all who mourn her passing; and, be it
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
27 day, it do so in memory of Jeanne Beulah Franklin Samuels.