

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 46

In Memory
of
Joyce Elizabeth Adejumo

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of Joyce Elizabeth Adejumo, who died May 7, 2013, at the age of 53; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Adejumo was born December 24, 1959, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to Mary Elizabeth Sales and Johnny Willie White; as a young girl, she demonstrated exceptional skills in mathematics, music, and visual and performing arts; and

WHEREAS, She joined the United States National Guard in 1979 and served the nation with distinction in both the National Guard and the United States Army; in 1983, she became the first African American woman to graduate from the North Carolina Military Academy; during her military service, she rose to the rank of captain and earned a degree from Vincennes University; and

WHEREAS, She became an outspoken advocate for tougher laws against driving while intoxicated after her son, Mitchie, was paralyzed in an accident involving a drunk driver; together, they helped educate the public about the consequences of driving while intoxicated and played an important role in helping to pass laws to protect victims; following her son's death in 2007, she established the Mitchie Mitchell Foundation to provide scholarships to high school students whose lives have been adversely affected by drunk drivers; and

WHEREAS, Her passion for African American art inspired her to open Mitchie's Gallery in 1989; the establishment became a

gathering place for the community and introduced countless people to African American art, while providing a space for meetings, a forum for poetry readings, and a venue for such children's activities as Easter egg design and taking pictures with Santa Claus; and

WHEREAS, A woman of courage, determination, and strength, Joyce gave unselfishly to others, and her generosity and her enthusiasm for living each day to the fullest will not be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Joyce Adejumo was a devoted wife and mother, and she leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by her family and countless friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Joyce Elizabeth Adejumo; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joyce Adejumo.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 12, 2013, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate