

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

In Memory
of
Joann Smith

WHEREAS, All who shared in the life of Joann Smith of Gilmer were deeply saddened by her passing on June 13, 2023, at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, Affectionately known as "Mama J," Joann Smith was born in Dandridge, Tennessee, on August 23, 1944, to Joe and Gladys Haynes, and she grew up in Knoxville with the companionship of five siblings, Eula Mae, Dorothy, Louise, Jim, and Larry; she worked as a lithographic stripper from 1965 to 1993 before moving to Gilmer; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith shared a rewarding marriage with her husband, James Smith, that spanned 18 years until his passing in 2020, and her cherished family also included her stepchildren, E. J., Kelli, and Krystal, as well as her 16 grandchildren; a woman of strong faith, she was an active member of Glade Creek Baptist Church, where she led worship for two decades; she enjoyed reading, traveling, and dancing, as well as spending time with her loved ones, taking care of her many animals, and supporting her grandkids in their various endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Although Joann Smith is greatly missed, those who held her dear will forever remember the warmth and kindness she brought into their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Joann "Mama J" Smith and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of her family: to her sister, Louise Dunn, and her husband, Leroy; to her brother, Larry Davis, and his wife, Anita; to her godson, Chris Partain, and his wife, Tiffany; to her goddaughter, Angela Partain; to her stepchildren, E. J. Smith and his wife, Shelly, Kelli Bean and her husband, Jeff, and Krystal Smith and her husband, Jason; to her grandchildren; and to her other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joann Smith.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 21, 2023, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate