

Formal Session Agenda

2-4-20

**TESTIMONIAL
RESOLUTIONS
AND SPECIAL
PRIVILEGE**



Testimonial Resolution

In Memoriam

Mrs. Mildred Beauford Stephens

WHEREAS, We, the members of the **Detroit City Council**, join the family and friends of **MRS. MILDRED BEAUFORD STEPHENS** in honoring her life and legacy. **MILDRED BEAUFORD STEPHENS** made her heavenly transition on January 9, 2020. We pause to offer sincere condolences to her daughter, Gail Stephens; grandchildren, JerMel (Mary) Stephens and J'Nel Stephens-Dantzler; great-granddaughter, Colette; son-in-law, Bill Laitner; God-sent sons, Stacey Brown and Fred Lucas; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, and her St. Phillips family; **and**

WHEREAS, **MILDRED BEAUFORD STEPHENS** was born on February 24, 1933, in Sunny South, Alabama. **MILDRED** was one of seven siblings born to the union of the late Eren (Johnson) Stephens and Lucious Dee Stephens. All of her siblings preceded her in death. At a young age, **MILDRED** was baptized and confirmed at The Lutheran Church of Vineland, Alabama. She received her adolescent education at Good Shepherd Lutheran School and graduated from Immanuel Lutheran College in North Carolina; **and**

WHEREAS, After graduation, **MILDRED** returned home to Alabama where her cousin introduced her to Abraham Stephens, who would become the love of her life. Abraham and **MILDRED** were united in marriage on May 18, 1957. The couple relocated to Michigan and remained together until his passing. To this union, four children were born, three of whom preceded **MILDRED** in death: Eren, Regina and Larry. **MILDRED** believed in the importance of education and instilled this value in each of her children. She encouraged them to take advantage of every learning opportunity, in both their school education and biblical teachings. **MILDRED** taught her children about the Bible, the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule. She was a devoted homemaker and stayed at home with her children until her youngest, Larry, began attending full days of kindergarten. **MILDRED** was a dedicated mother and did not want her children to leave or return to an empty home. In 1971, she began her career at Stark Elementary School, which was walking distance from her home. She remained there until her retirement; **and**

WHEREAS, **MILDRED** loved spending time in the kitchen preparing meals for her family with fresh vegetables from her well-kept garden. She was an excellent cook and baker; everything she made was delicious! **MILDRED** was well known for her German chocolate cake, peach cobbler, pig feet, homemade rolls and Juicy Lucy burgers; **and**

WHEREAS, A devout Christian and servant of God, **MILDRED** was a faithful member at St. Phillips Lutheran Church in Detroit for over 45 years. She worked on numerous committees and stayed very active until her health declined. She instilled in her children and grandchildren the importance of regular church attendance, as well as cultivating a personal relationship with God. **MILDRED** took every moment and made it a life lesson, passing on her years of wisdom to those she loved. She relished any opportunity to teach, motivate, encourage and mentor. Life was her classroom and she was always ready to teach. **MRS. MILDRED BEAUFORD STEPHENS** has ensured that her impact would be forever embedded in the hearts of those she cherished for years to come. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That Council President Brenda Jones and the **Detroit City Council** extend our deepest sympathy and join with family and friends to celebrate the life of **MRS. MILDRED BEAUFORD STEPHENS**. She will be greatly missed.

Brenda Jones
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mary Sheffield
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

John DeLuca
COUNCIL MEMBER

John P. Con
COUNCIL MEMBER

John P. Con
COUNCIL MEMBER

Scott B...
COUNCIL MEMBER

Scott B...
COUNCIL MEMBER

Raquel Castañeda-Topsy
COUNCIL MEMBER

Raquel Castañeda-Topsy
COUNCIL MEMBER

January 18, 2020

DATE