

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Ross Fulton Keener, Jr.

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Ross Keener to his heavenly home on January 16, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** Ross married Elizabeth Frances Rector on June 23, 1963; and,
- WHEREAS,** he graduated from the University of Alabama in 1963, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree; and,
- WHEREAS,** Ross had a career of over 20 years as an intelligence officer in the United States Army, rising to the rank of Lt. Colonel before retiring; and,
- WHEREAS,** Ross answered God's call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in the University of the South School of Theology, from which he earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1981; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on September 20, 1981 by The Rt. Rev. Claude Charles Vaché, who also ordained him to the Priesthood on April 21st of the following year; and,
- WHEREAS,** during his early years in the ordained ministry, Ross served in various capacities at Emmanuel Church in Chatham, VA and Trinity Church in Gretna, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 1986 he accepted a call to serve as Rector at St. George's Church in Newport News, VA, a position he held for eleven years; and,
- WHEREAS,** Ross offered supply clergy duties to Glebe Church in the Driver area of Suffolk, VA, an arrangement which worked so well he accepted their call in 1998 to become Priest-in-Charge; and,
- WHEREAS,** during this time he emphasized the parish's need to be a service to the community, making the building space available free of charge to groups such as AA, the Boy Scouts, and area homeowners associations while at the same time being an advocate for ecumenical relationships with other churches in the Driver area; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was an enthusiastic supporter of Cursillo and a hands-on volunteer at the feeding ministry of St. Paul's Church in Newport News; and,
- WHEREAS,** he is remembered fondly for being extremely kind and generous and the Parish Administrator at the time called him the best person she had ever worked for; and,
- WHEREAS,** after seventeen years of faithful service, Ross retired from Glebe in 2005; and,

WHEREAS, after the death of his wife Elizabeth in 2005, Ross married his long-time friend Janet Turner in 2008; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including forty-two years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. Ross Keener, Jr.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife, Janet Turner.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Laughton Thomas

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Laughton Thomas to his heavenly home on February 2, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was born on July 27, 1945, in Buffalo, NY, the son of Laughton Flowers and Ormah Dennis Thomas; and,
- WHEREAS,** after graduating from high school he attended Howard University prior to enlisting in the United States Navy; and,
- WHEREAS,** Laughton married Pamela Reid in 1970, a union which produced two sons, David and Michael; and,
- WHEREAS,** after serving his country for four years, Laughton returned to Western New York and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Buffalo in 1973; and,
- WHEREAS,** Laughton answered God's call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in the General Theological Seminary, from which he earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1978; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 3, 1978 by The Rt. Rev. Albert Wienche Van Duzar, who also ordained him to the Priesthood on December 1 of that year; and,
- WHEREAS,** Laughton served congregations in New Brunswick and Plainfield, New Jersey from 1978 through 1989; and,
- WHEREAS,** during this time Laughton served as a Chaplain in the United States Naval Reserve, eventually retiring from this work in 1998 with the rank of Commander; and,
- WHEREAS,** he accepted a call to serve as Vicar of St. Paul's Memorial Chapel in Lawrenceville, VA in 1989; and,
- WHEREAS,** at this time he also accepted a call to serve as Chaplain at St. Paul's College and,
- WHEREAS,** Laughton concluded his ministry in the Diocese of Southern Virginia in 2002 when he accepted a call to serve at St. Michael and All Angels Anglican Church in Tallahassee, FL; and,
- WHEREAS,** he married Sarah Sams on June 16, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, Laughton became the first African-American to serve as Canon in the Diocese of Florida and in 2020 was awarded the Bishop's Cross for his "faithful service to the Episcopal Church and his community"; and,

WHEREAS, Laughton was preceded in death by his first wife, Pamela; and,

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife, Sharon, sons David and Michael and their spouses, his brother Ronald, three stepchildren, seventeen grandchildren, and a host of additional family; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including forty-five years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. Laughton Thomas; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Donald Bell Harris

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Donald Harris to his heavenly home on March 16, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was born on March 8, 1936, in Boston, MA, the son of Robert and Ruth Harris; and,
- WHEREAS,** Don earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of William & Mary in 1957, and also undertook studies at the University of Iowa (1958), Claremont College (1960), and the University of California (1966, 1969); and,
- WHEREAS,** Don answered God's call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, from which he earned a Master of Divinity degree with honors in 1964; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on January 10, 1964 by The Rt. Rev. George Richard Millard, and to the Priesthood on July 11 of that same year by The Rt. Rev. Robert B. Gooden; and,
- WHEREAS,** Don capped off a memorable year by marrying Faye Ruth Voss on November 28, 1964, a union which would produce three children; and,
- WHEREAS,** he served as a priest in congregations in Colorado, South Carolina, and New York; and,
- WHEREAS,** he accepted a call to serve as the Chaplain at the United States Naval Hospital from 1984-1986 and as a Senior Chaplain at the United States Coast Guard base on Governors Island, NY from 1986-1988; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 1971, Don founded CREDO, a program to provide community support for military personnel and their families; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 1988, Donald accepted a call to serve as Chaplain to the College of William & Mary, a position he held through 1990; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 1990 he accepted a call to serve as Associate Rector at St. Martin's Parish in Williamsburg, a position he held until 2003; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 1993 he completed course work at the Institute of Clinical Theodicy at Regent University and then began a teaching career at this school which lasted from 1994-2001; and,
- WHEREAS,** he authored several published works including *That's How the Light Gets In: A CREDO of Friendship* (1994), *CREDO: Ministering in the Twilight of the 20th Century*, and *The Chaplain as Fisherman and Shepherd*; and,

WHEREAS, in 1996, Don and his family founded La Tienda to introduce Americans to Spanish people, culture, and cuisine, an effort promoting cross-cultural understanding for which the King of Spain awarded to him His Majesty's Official Cross of the Order of Civil Merit; and,

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife, Ruth, three sons, Timothy, Jonathan, and Christopher, their spouses, and six grandchildren: now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including sixty years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. Donald Harris; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend William Ogden Jones

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call William “Bill” Jones to his heavenly home on April 17, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was born on July 19, 1937, in Atlanta, GA, the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Ogden Jones; and,
- WHEREAS,** Bill earned degrees from Hendrix College, the University of Arkansas, and The American College; and,
- WHEREAS,** he married Gaye Shinall on May 15, 1957, a union which would produce three children; and,
- WHEREAS,** Bill enjoyed a successful career in the life insurance industry; and,
- WHEREAS,** he answered God’s call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in the Local Formation Program of the Diocese of Southern Virginia; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 15, 1989 by The Rt. Rev. Claude Charles Vaché; and,
- WHEREAS,** he served as a deacon at St. David’s Church in North Chesterfield, VA from 1993-1996, at Trinity Church in Milwaukee, WI from 1999-2002, and at the Church of the Redeemer in Midlothian, VA from 2002-2007 before returning to St. David’s from 2006-2021; and,
- WHEREAS,** Bill served several different roles on the board of the North American Association for the Diaconate, including as its president from 1997-1999; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was appointed Archdeacon of the Diocese of Southern Virginia in 2008, a position he filled with faithfulness, passion, and wisdom; and,
- WHEREAS,** Bill received the Ann and Don King Community Service Leadership Award in 2007 from Home Again, an agency for homeless adults and children; and,
- WHEREAS,** Bill’s ministry to the homeless, prisoners, and fellow deacons was, what one friend described as being “a walking advertisement for Servant Ministry”; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was especially adept at discerning in others a call to the ordained ministry, encouraging them to pursue it as a vocation; and,

WHEREAS, he enjoyed a good story, a good cigar, and cheering on the men's basketball teams of the University of Arkansas Razorbacks and Virginia Commonwealth University; and,

WHEREAS, following the death of his wife Gaye, a friend introduced him to Lynn, another avid fan of the V.C.U. Rams, and this mutual interest sparked a relationship which culminated in marriage on November 10, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, Bill was preceded in death by his first wife, Gaye, their daughter, Allison Goris, and his brother Benjamin Jones, Jr.; and,

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Nancy Lynn Jones, his daughters, Hope King and Jenny Hudley, their spouses, ten grandchildren, and four great grandchildren; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including twenty-four years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. William O. Jones; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
Caroline Brackenridge Talbot

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Caroline Brackenridge Talbot to her heavenly home on April 15, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** this native of Norfolk, Virginia was born on October 8, 1924, the daughter of Milton and Cornelia Talbot; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was a proud alumna of the College of William & Mary, graduating with a degree in Fine Arts; and,
- WHEREAS,** she joined the war effort by driving a Red Cross ambulance during World War II; and,
- WHEREAS,** Caroline married William F. Egelhoff, a union which produced four children; and,
- WHEREAS,** as the spouse of a priest, she contributed to the common life of Holy Trinity Church in Onancock, Virginia and helped to found St. Martin's Church in Williamsburg, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was always a willing, eager and able volunteer, especially in the Williamsburg area community outreach programs such as Head Start, a battered women's shelter, teen homes, the League of Women Voters, and the Board of Visitors at the College of William & Mary; and,
- WHEREAS,** her life-long passion for education was demonstrated by her endowing scholarships at Granby High School in Norfolk, VA and the Eastern Virginia Medical School while also endowing a professorship at the College of William & Mary; and,
- WHEREAS,** Caroline expressed her generosity and love by donating her historic family home, Talbot Hall in Norfolk, to the Episcopal Church, a site which for many years provided housing for our bishops and offices for our diocesan staff; and,
- WHEREAS,** Caroline is preceded in death by her son, William; and,
- WHEREAS,** she is survived by her children, Elizabeth, Catherine, and Thomas, eight grandchildren, and five great grandchildren; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia give thanks for the loving and faithful witness offered to the Glory of God by Caroline Brackenridge Talbot; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this Council extend its heartfelt sympathy to her family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council, and that copies be sent to her children.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Jane Flaherty

WHEREAS, it has pleased God to call Jane Flaherty to her heavenly home on May 16, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, she was born on June 29, 1939, in Alton, IL, the daughter of Francis and Julia Flaherty, and raised by her aunt, Rose Schulz Collins, after the death of her parents; and,

WHEREAS, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Notre Dame College in 1961, a Master of Arts degree from St. Louis University in 1971, and a Doctor of Education degree from Rutgers University in 1978; and,

WHEREAS, she had a rich and varied career in the field of education, serving in parochial schools in the St. Louis area before relocating to New Jersey to work in public schools and colleges; and,

WHEREAS, she was a nun in the Roman Catholic Church prior to joining the Episcopal Church after discerning a call to the priesthood; and,

WHEREAS, Jane answered God's call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in General Theological Seminary, earning a Master of Divinity degree in 1991; and,

WHEREAS, she was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 6, 1991 by The Rt. Rev. George Phelps Mellick Bleshaw, who then ordained her to the priesthood on February 15th of the following year; and,

WHEREAS, she served as an Assistant to the Rector at Trinity Church in Morristown, NJ prior to accepting a call in 1995 to be the Rector of St. Christopher's Church in Portsmouth, VA, a position she held until her retirement in 2002; and,

WHEREAS, while at St. Christopher's she helped the congregation to heal and move forward after it experienced profound inner turmoil during the ministry of her predecessor; and,

WHEREAS, she served as our diocesan Ecumenical Officer from 1992-2002; and,

WHEREAS, Jane was preceded in death by her parents, aunt and uncle; and,

WHEREAS, she is survived by her sister, Mary Anne Magee and her husband Pat, cousins Janet Francis and Jim Scoggins and their spouses, as well as children and grandchildren of these marriages; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including thirty-two years in

the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. Jane Flaherty;
and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extend its heartfelt sympathy to her family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to her sister.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Elizabeth Felicetti

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Elizabeth Felicetti to her heavenly home on August 17, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was born in Phoenix, AZ on February 23, 1968; and,
- WHEREAS,** she married Gary Felicetti on October 19, 1996; and,
- WHEREAS,** Elizabeth answered God's call to the ordained ministry and enrolled in Virginia Theological Seminary, from which she earned a Master of Divinity degree in 2007; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 9, 2007 by the Rt. Rev. John Clark Buchanan, and a Priest on December 8, 2007 by the Rt. Rev. John Clark Buchanan; and,
- WHEREAS,** she served as the Assistant Rector at Old Donation, Virginia Beach prior to accepting a call to be the Rector of St. David's Church in Richmond, VA in 2011; and,
- WHEREAS,** she enjoyed studying the Old Testament, Biblical Hebrew, and characters of the Bible such as John the Baptist whom, next to Jesus, she claimed as her favorite biblical character; and,
- WHEREAS,** Elizabeth was known to be outspoken at times, which reflected her strong passion for being that voice of repentance and injustice wherever she saw it needed; and,
- WHEREAS,** because of her passion for the language, she spent part of one summer in Sudan teaching Hebrew; and,
- WHEREAS,** Elizabeth served the Diocese of Southern Virginia in many capacities, including President of the Standing Committee and Fresh Start facilitator; and,
- WHEREAS,** she earned a Master of Fine Arts in Writing from Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky; and,
- WHEREAS,** she authored *Unexpected Abundance: The Fruitful Lives of Women Without Children* and co-authored *Irreverent Prayers: How to Talk to God When You're Seriously Sick*, with the Rev. Samantha Vincent-Alexander; and,
- WHEREAS,** Elizabeth's essays and book reviews were published in *The Atlantic*, *The Christian Century*, and *Kirkus Reviews*; and,

WHEREAS, she contributed to the Westminster John Knox's preaching commentary *Connections*; and,

WHEREAS, Elizabeth loved birdwatching and walking her dog, Pepper; and,

WHEREAS, she enjoyed playing the ukulele and introducing others to its mellow, meditative melodies; and,

WHEREAS, she is survived by her husband, Gary; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including seventeen years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Reverend Elizabeth Felicetti; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extend its heartfelt sympathy to her family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to her husband, Gary.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
The Reverend Margery Eldredge Howell

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Marjory Howell to her heavenly home on August 25, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was born on August 30, 1949, in Pulaski, VA, the daughter of Asner and Frances Howell; and,
- WHEREAS,** she earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma State University in 1972; and,
- WHEREAS,** she held a wide variety of jobs over the course of her work life, including serving as a transit police officer in Norfolk, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** Margery answered God's call to the ordained ministry and graduated from the formation program of the Diocese of Southern Virginia; and,
- WHEREAS,** she was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 9, 2007 by The Rt. Rev. John Clark Buchannan; and,
- WHEREAS,** she served as a Deacon at St. Francis Church in Virginia Beach from 2007-2009, St. Christopher's Church in Portsmouth, VA from 2009-2015, and Good Samaritan Church in Virginia Beach from 2015-2018; and,
- WHEREAS,** Margery lived into the passion of her particular calling by serving as the chaplain of Thurston Hall Nursing Facility in Norfolk, VA and Beacon Shores Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Virginia Beach, VA, where her ministries were greatly enhanced by Phoebe, her beloved therapy dog; and,
- WHEREAS,** she is survived by her sisters, Frances Mazza and Austin White, their spouses, her nephew Christopher White and his daughter, Scarlett; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service, including seventeen years in the ordained ministry, offered to God's glory by The Rev. Margery Howell; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this Council extend its heartfelt sympathy to her family; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that copies be sent to her sisters.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Charles L. Farrar

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Charles Farrar to his heavenly home on November 29, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was born on May 11, 1947 in South Hill, VA, the son of Theodore Roosevelt and Elizabeth Taylor Farrar; and,
- WHEREAS,** he earned a Bachelor's degree in Business from Virginia State University in 1970; and,
- WHEREAS,** after college, Charles served for two years in the United States Army; and,
- WHEREAS,** after leaving the military, he was hired by BellSouth Telephone Company, becoming one of the first African Americans to serve in its management; and,
- WHEREAS,** during this time, Charles married Shirley Williams, a union which resulted in the birth of Marcus Farrar, a renowned musician; and,
- WHEREAS,** Charles was an accomplished artist who specialized in woodworking, with prized pieces being held in personal, corporate, and museum collections across our nation; and,
- WHEREAS,** he used a piece of wood from a tree at his childhood home from which his mother strung a clothes line and fashioned it into an urn to contain his remains upon his death; and,
- WHEREAS,** Charles' interest in family history and genealogy lead him in 1983 to work with three cousins to organize a huge family reunion; a gathering which led to the establishment of a scholarship fund to provide financial assistance to college-bound family members; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 2003, he helped to create The James Solomon Russell Scholars Program for religious and philosophical studies at St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** Charles completed Master's level work in The Archbishop of Canterbury's Examination in Theology Program, enabling him to advance his passion for history by working on a PhD in the field of Anglican Church History; and,
- WHEREAS,** in 2011, Charles married Hilda Simmons Rainey, whom he had known since elementary school and together they decided to move back to the area of their childhood, South Hill; and,

WHEREAS, Charles served our church and diocese by being a board member of The Historic Society of the Episcopal Church and the co-chair of our diocesan Repairers of the Breach Commission; and,

WHEREAS, he lived out his faith through leadership in the community by being a lifetime member of the NAACP and member and former chairman of Planned Parenthood; and,

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Hilda, mother-in-law Rosa Lee Simmons, sons Marcus and Glenn, their spouses, sister Marian, three brothers, Curtis, Steven, and Leslie, and their spouses; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service and Christian witness offered to God's glory by Charles L. Farrar; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

The Reverend Doctor Jacqueline Segar Gravatt

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Jacqueline Segar Gravatt (known as Segar) to her eternal rest on December 23, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar was born on June 3, 1949, in Blackstone, Virginia, to John Segar Gravatt and Isbell Turnbull Gravatt; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar began her professional journey in the 1970s as a recreational therapist, teaching horseback riding to children with disabilities at the Arthur Godfrey Equestrian Center in Loudon County, VA, and later worked as activities director at the Zuni Presbyterian Training Center for adults with disabilities in Zuni, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** sensing a deeper call to serve others, Segar entered Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA, and graduated with a Doctor of Divinity degree, later continuing her studies at the Episcopal Seminary in Alexandria, VA; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar was ordained as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church and served as a permanent Deacon for 15 years, ministering with great care as a chaplain at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital and Westminster-Canterbury, among other Tidewater settings; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar was ordained as a Priest in 1999, becoming the first woman to be ordained in the Diocese of Southern Virginia, and joined All Saints' Episcopal Church in Virginia Beach, VA, where she served as Associate Rector until her retirement in 2016; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar was deeply involved in the Cursillo movement, offering her time and energy to support the spiritual growth of others, particularly youth, mentoring those in discernment and newly ordained, and spreading God's love and joy throughout her community; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar's love of life, laughter, and people was a cornerstone of her ministry, and she desired to be remembered for her unwavering love of God and for all the lives she touched through her compassionate service; and,
- WHEREAS,** Segar is survived by her family, friends, colleagues, and the many communities she served, all of whom are left to cherish her memory; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the life and ministry of The Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Segar Gravatt,

whose dedication to God and service to others has left a profound and lasting impact; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its deepest sympathy to Segar's family and friends and prays for comfort and peace for all who mourn her passing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council, and that a copy be sent to her family.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Dr. Robert L. Satcher, Sr.

- WHEREAS,** it has pleased God to call Robert Satcher to his heavenly home on December 31, 2024; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was born on September 18, 1937, in Anniston, Alabama, one of eight children born to Deacon Wilmer and Anna Mattie Satcher; and,
- WHEREAS,** he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Alabama State University, a Master of Science degree from Arizona State University, and a Ph.D. in Radiation Science degree from Oregon State University; and,
- WHEREAS,** while a student at Alabama State, he joined the Episcopal Church and over the course of his life was active in parishes in Alabama, South Carolina, and Tennessee, along with St. Cyprian's Church in Hampton, VA and St. Paul's Memorial Chapel in Lawrenceville, VA in our own diocese; and,
- WHEREAS,** during his undergraduate years, Robert participated in the Montgomery Bus Boycott (after which he wrote an essay reflecting on the experience that remains recommended reading for the Civil Rights Movement) as well as the Selma Voter Registration drive; and,
- WHEREAS,** he pursued postdoctoral studies at the University of Michigan, Princeton University, Tufts University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and,
- WHEREAS,** Robert was a Professor of Chemistry and Physics for 24 years at St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, serving this fine institution in numerous additional capacities including as its President from 2007-2012; and,
- WHEREAS,** prior to joining the faculty of St. Paul's College, he held leadership positions at Hampton University, Fisk University, and Voorhees College; and,
- WHEREAS,** he was the recipient of awards from a wide variety of groups, including Oregon State University, the Boy Scouts of America, and St. Paul's College; and,
- WHEREAS,** his civic involvement ranged from the U.S. Department of Education to the Boy Scouts to Academic Societies to appointments in our Commonwealth to leadership roles in Lawrenceville and Brunswick County; and,
- WHEREAS,** Robert is remembered as being a distinguished educator, caring mentor, lifelong civil rights advocate, and faithful Episcopalian; and,

WHEREAS, Robert was preceded in death by his brothers, John, Charles, and Harry Satcher, and by sisters, Olivia Ann Pearson and Lottie Bea Washington; and,

WHEREAS, he is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years Marian Hanna Satcher; their children Serena Satcher, Robert Satcher, Jr., Rodney Levi Satcher, Robin Leon Satcher and their spouses; two siblings, David Satcher, Larry Satcher and their spouses; two grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia gives thanks for the lifetime of dedicated service and Christian witness offered to God's glory by Dr. Robert L. Satcher, Sr.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Council extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be spread across the minutes and books of Council and that a copy be sent to his wife, Marian.