

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 30—Senators Raggio, Amodei, Beers, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Hardy, Heck, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Rhoads, Schneider, Tiffany, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Perkins, Allen, Anderson, Angle, Arberry Jr., Atkinson, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Conklin, Denis, Gansert, Gerhardt, Giunchigliani, Goicoechea, Grady, Hardy, Hettrick, Hogan, Holcomb, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Mabey, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, McCleary, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Pierce, Seale, Sherer, Sibley, Smith and Weber

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing former First Lady Carolyn O’Callaghan.

WHEREAS, Fulfilling the demands and expectations placed on the First Lady of Nevada is a uniquely challenging responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Randall O’Callaghan quietly and graciously took charge of the role with the greatest dignity, serving Nevadans in such a way as to evoke the admiration of everyone who knew her, as well as those who will imitate her as a model and guidepost in the future; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Randall, the daughter of Claude and Marjorie Randall, was born on December 15, 1935, in Twin Falls, Idaho, where she spent many happy childhood hours playing in the greenhouses behind her family’s flower shop, and is remembered as a nature lover and a tomboy who enjoyed riding stick horses in the fields; and

WHEREAS, In spite of her tomboyish propensities, this young lady early revealed her maternal instincts, as her sister Harriet recalls that Carolyn “on her own as a teenager took on the responsibility of looking after me” and “took me everywhere with her”; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn attended the University of Idaho in Moscow, where she met Mike O’Callaghan, and the two were married on August 25, 1954, and remained devoted to each other during the almost 50 years they were together; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, when Mike became Governor and Carolyn assumed her position as First Lady of Nevada, she set a standard for hospitality that is unequalled by maintaining the proper sophistication while truly making the Governor’s Mansion the house of the people of Nevada, as seen in her custom of rising early each

morning to serve coffee at the kitchen table and discuss the issues of the day with the mailman, milkman and whoever else might be passing by and in her joy of “spooking-up” the Mansion at Halloween and making hundreds of bags of popcorn to hand to trick-or-treaters; and

WHEREAS, One favorite story about this very special First Lady involves the time when the Governor received word that picketers from Las Vegas had gathered at the Governor’s Mansion to protest his support of the motorcycle helmet law, but on arriving to evaluate the situation, he discovered only dozens of picket signs on the porch and lawn because Carolyn, explaining that those people had come all the way from Las Vegas and it was cold outside, had everyone in the kitchen being served coffee, hot chocolate and lunch; and

WHEREAS, In her private life, Carolyn was known for athletic ability that enabled her to win numerous bowling tournaments and pro-am golf championships, and as a person who could do anything she set her mind to, she even included the driving of school buses and moving vans as well as the building of an addition to the family home in her repertoire of skills; and

WHEREAS, In addition to athleticism, keen driving abilities and carpentry, Carolyn excelled as a guitar player, gourmet cook, crack shot and masterful angler who, in fact, just 3 weeks before her death, had taken several of her grandchildren on a fishing expedition to Lake Mead; and

WHEREAS, As a wife, Carolyn’s love and support for her husband knew no limits, and even though she disagreed with him on many issues, she knew they thought alike regarding all the most important subjects including their children, their family and their home; and

WHEREAS, Her children remember Carolyn as a “class lady” and a mom who created a tight-knit family in a home filled with love, living intensely her belief that family came before politics; and

WHEREAS, Underneath all the external qualities making her such a remarkable woman, lay the vivaciousness and inner beauty that created the magnetic charisma of this First Lady whom friends remember as a generous benefactor completely consumed with doing good for others and as a mentor who taught them how to be better people; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn Randall O’Callaghan slipped away on August 7, 2004, only a few months after losing the love of her life, and those who knew her well find comfort in believing that she and Mike are together in a better place and that they did indeed celebrate that 50th wedding anniversary together; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature express their respect and admiration for

Carolyn Randall O'Callaghan as a loving, compassionate, dedicated wife and mother who served the people of Nevada as their First Lady with the honor and dignity befitting that position, and they offer their sincerest condolences to Carolyn's beloved family and to the friends whose love and respect she earned through the quality of the life she lived; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Carolyn O'Callaghan will always be remembered fondly in the annals of great personages of the State of Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Carolyn's treasures on Earth, her children Michael, Brian, Tim, Colleen and Teresa.

