

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 633

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Helen Elizabeth Wilburn Shipley on the celebration of her ninety-fifth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Helen Elizabeth Wilburn Shipley celebrated her ninety-fifth birthday on July 18, 2015, a milestone that has been commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, born in Loudon County to J.W. Wilburn, Sr., and Effie Kollock Wilburn, Helen Shipley attended Nichols Elementary School and graduated from Lenoir City High School in 1938. She graduated from Lenoir City Business School, where she learned shorthand, typing, and bookkeeping; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shipley's parents owned a mom-and-pop grocery store on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Lenoir City and later J.W. Wilburn Hardware Company, where Helen worked for seventy-six years as the office manager before eventually coming into her current role as the corporation's secretary; and

WHEREAS, a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, Helen Shipley married Ralph Edwin Shipley on September 6, 1946, at the Lenoir City Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The loving couple's union produced two children: Elizabeth Ann Shipley Allen, who is married to William; and Edwin Wilburn Shipley, who is married to Gwen; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Shipleys are the proud grandparents of James E. Fox, Sara E. Fox Rowe (Dennis), Nicholas Shipley (Ashleigh), Blaire Shipley Burnette (Scottie), Kelly Allen Bauer, Mariam Allen Amburn, Ariel Hargis Newton (Tyler), and Ciara Hargis Phillips (Justin). Great-grandchildren include Elizabeth Jackson, Sam Rowe, Hailey Chandler, Sydney Burnette,

Will Amburn, Ethan Amburn, Chloe Bauer, Tori Burnette, Bailey Burnette, and Tobias Phillips;  
and

WHEREAS, dedicated to her Lord, Mrs. Shipley is a member of Trinity Methodist Church. Previously, she was active with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the women's organization, where she served for more than seventy years; and

WHEREAS, since 1972, Helen Shipley has been a genealogist in search of family history. She is a member of the Historical Society of Loudon County, the General William Lenoir Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the First Families of Tennessee, and the National Society of Magna Charta Dames; and

WHEREAS, continuing the family traditions of farming, Mr. and Mrs. Shipley owned Kollock Family Land Heritage Farm, a 163-year-old Century Farm located on Hotchkiss Valley Road East. Helen and Ralph moved into their home at 702 West First Avenue in Lenoir City when they returned from their honeymoon, and Mrs. Shipley lives there to this day; and

WHEREAS, as Helen Shipley gracefully approaches her eleventh decade, she is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events;  
and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Helen Elizabeth Wilburn Shipley on the celebration of her ninety-fifth birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness in the coming years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.