

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 495

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the late Dr. Gene Caldwell upon the occasion of his posthumous receipt of the Emory Valley Center Compassion Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to the memory of those Tennesseans who distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Emory Valley Center recently granted its Compassion Award to the memory of the late Dr. Gene Caldwell in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Emory Valley Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gene Caldwell co-chaired the Emory Valley Center Capital Campaign for eight years with Dottie Thompson; during this time, they diligently visited churches, community clubs and organizations, local businesses, corporations, and individuals, and they participated in fundraising events and wrote thirty-seven grants to obtain additional funding; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Caldwell and Ms. Thompson worked tirelessly and compassionately to make the new Emory Valley Center building a reality, and the Caldwell-Thompson building was named in their honor; and

WHEREAS, for their service to people with disabilities, they also received a certificate of appreciation from Governor Bill Haslam; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gene Caldwell received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Tennessee, a pre-medical degree from Vanderbilt University, and a medical degree from the University of Tennessee in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, he honorably served his country as a member of the United States Navy during both the Korean and Vietnam wars as a line officer; he then served in the Navy's Medical

Corps for seven years, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and served as Chief of Pediatrics at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Memphis from 1963 to 1967; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Caldwell moved to Anderson County and practiced pediatrics at the Children's Clinic in Oak Ridge for twenty-seven years, serving as staff pediatrician; during his career, he also served as chief of staff of Oak Ridge Hospital, a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a member of the Board of Directors for the Fort Sanders Management Group and Preferred Health Partnership Board, and a volunteer lobbyist for the Tennessee Pediatric Society; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Dr. Caldwell was elected to represent District 33 in the House of Representatives of the General Assembly; during his three terms in office, he served as a member of the House Education Committee, the House Health and Human Services Committee, and the TennCare Oversight Committee, which he served as chairman; and

WHEREAS, during his lifetime, he served as a member of many community, civic, and statewide organizations, including the Alpha Kappa Alumni Association, Alpha Gamma Rho; the University of Tennessee Alumni Association, Executive Committee and Board of Alumni Governors; the Roane-Anderson Economic Council; the Tennessee Economic Council; the Girls Club of Oak Ridge, Sustaining Membership Chairman; the Oak Ridge Charter Commission; the RID; the Methodist Medical Center Foundation; the Chamber of Commerce, Oak Ridge and Anderson County; and the March of Dimes Foundation, East Tennessee Chapter, Program Services Committee and Grant Awards Committee; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Dr. Caldwell was a two-time recipient of the Outstanding Alumni award from Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Kappa and the recipient of Volunteer of the Year honors from the Girls Club, the Chapter Achievement Award as a Children's Advocate from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the East Tennessee Legislator of the Year award from the East Tennessee Resource Agency Area Agency on Aging, the Tennessee Children's Champion award from the Tennessee Association of Education for Young Children, the Legislator of the Year award from the Tennessee chapter of the American

Academy of Pediatrics, and the Distinguished Service award from the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS, as an advocate for people of all abilities, the late Dr. Gene Caldwell epitomized the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the memory of the late Dr. Gene Caldwell for his many contributions to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of the late Dr. Gene Caldwell upon the occasion of his posthumous receipt of the Emory Valley Center Compassion Award.

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