



SR1203

LRB103 42524 ECR 75756 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Lillian Josephine "Nicki" Nixon Rickman of Chicago, who passed away on August 1, 2024 at the age of 102; and

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WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman, the daughter of Arthur and Emma La Rue Nixon, was born in Downingtown, Pennsylvania on June 4, 1922; she graduated from high school at the age of 16 and received multiple scholarship opportunities, a testament to the academic excellence she prioritized throughout her life; she then attended the Hampton Institute in Virginia, transferred to and completed nursing school at Freeman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. in 1947, and later earned a Bachelor of Science from the Catholic University of America; she served as an emergency room and operating room nurse in the U.S. Army; she married Edward Rickman in 1949, and he passed away in 1982; she moved to Chicago in 2006; and

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WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman worked as a nurse until she left the profession in 1953 to focus on raising her family; during her time in Washington, D.C., she forged many lifetime friendships and supported her husband as he climbed the academic ladder at the Howard University College of Medicine, becoming chair of the Department of Psychiatry/Neurology and

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1 building a highly successful private practice; later in life,  
2 she became an entrepreneur and managed many real estate  
3 investments; and

4 WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman was active in the Parent Teacher  
5 Associations (PTA) of her children's schools and worked to  
6 ensure that her children prioritized learning and school  
7 performance, while also preparing them to be part of a cohort  
8 that desegregated schools in her area; she was also a member of  
9 the League of Women Voters, where she was an advocate for  
10 Washington, D.C.'s pursuit for home rule; and

11 WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman enjoyed a variety of activities  
12 throughout her life, including traveling, reading, and playing  
13 poker and golf; she loved attending quilting bees and being  
14 involved in pinochle, bridge, and book clubs; she enjoyed  
15 completing the New York Times' crossword puzzle daily and was  
16 a skilled Scrabble player; in her later years, she sharpened  
17 her culinary skills and grew her own herbs and vegetables; and

18 WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman valued hard work, patience, and  
19 commitment to family, lessons she learned on the farm where  
20 she was raised with her seven siblings; she will be most  
21 remembered for her legacy of love, including her final wish  
22 for her children to continue to love and care for one another  
23 and other family members; and

1           WHEREAS, Lillian Rickman is survived by her children,  
2           Stephen, Lorrie, and George; her son-in-law, Emil (Lorrie)  
3           Jones Jr.; her daughters-in-law, Linda (Stephen) Rickman,  
4           Evangeline (the late Lance) Rickman, and Jennifer (George)  
5           Bingham; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 13  
6           great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews,  
7           cousins, and friends; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
9           ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
10          Lillian Josephine "Nicki" Nixon Rickman and extend our sincere  
11          condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
12          her; and be it further

13          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14          presented to the family of Lillian Rickman as an expression of  
15          our deepest sympathy.