

RESOLUTION NUMBER 80
HONORING RICHELLE ANNETTE SIMMONS CLARK

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the sudden passing of Richelle Annette Simmons Clark the mother of our colleague Alderwoman Shameem Clark- Hubbard; and

WHEREAS, Richelle Annette Simmons Clark was the first of four children born to the union of Richard A. Simmons and Sallie Hill Simmons at Peoples Hospital, a historic private African American Hospital, in the City of St. Louis, Mo.; and

WHEREAS, she attended schools in Southeast Missouri until her family moved to St. Louis in 1960. Following the move to St. Louis, she attended Saint Louis Public Schools culminating with her graduation from William H. Beaumont High School. During her high school career, she was elected Vice President of the senior class of 1967, participated in numerous clubs, and was inducted into as well as served as secretary of the National Honor Society. Her love for Beaumont extended through to her serving as Chairperson of the Class of 67 Reunions and being elected President of Beaumont Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, Richelle attended Mizzou, University of Missouri- Columbia, earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1971. As a lifelong learner she studied to be a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Saint Louis University Medical School/Cardinal Glennon Hospital and earned multiple graduate degrees including a Master of Science in Health Administration at Lindenwood College and an Executive MBA in health services management at Washington University- Olin School of Business; and

WHEREAS, while at Beaumont High School, Richelle met the love of her life, Joseph W. B. Clark, Jr. They continued their relationship at Mizzou and became one in matrimony in 1970. To this union, three children were born- Trina, Shameem, and Josef; and

WHEREAS, throughout her accomplished career in public health that spanned over 45 years, she was a School Nurse with Saint Louis Public Schools, a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Courtney Clinic, an Assistant Director of Health and Hospitals for the City of St. Louis Department of Health, Co-Director for the Center for Community and Health Partnerships at the Institute for Public Health at Washington University, and a number of diverse positions within community health; and

WHEREAS, Richelle was initiated into the Epsilon Psi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. at Mizzou in the spring of 1969. Her love for the sisterhood to which she pledged lifetime membership was amplified when she served as a Charter Member for the Saint Louis Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter (SLMAC). She committed her time, talents, and treasure in support of several committees, served as Chairperson or Coordinator for multiple committees at the local and regional level, and was elected to both Vice President roles as well as President of SLMAC in 2014 – 2018; and

WHEREAS, she was a lifelong member of All Saints Episcopal Church where she was very active as a member of the choir, Sunday School teacher, leader of Confirmation classes, Lay Eucharistic Minister, and Senior Warden of the Vestry providing leadership during a critical time in the church's history; and

WHEREAS, she served in a multitude of leadership capacities with The St. Louis City NAACP. Her commitment to improvement of our community was exemplified by her Board membership with a plethora of organizations across the St. Louis region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, she was well respected and recognized by city, county, and statewide community healthcare systems and local social service agencies serving children and families. She was inducted onto the William H. Beaumont High School Wall of Fame in 2008. She was saluted as a Community Champion for health care by the Institute for Family Medicine. She received an Excellence in Health Care Award from the St. Louis American Foundation in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Richelle leaves her cherished legacy to her parents Richard and Sallie; her husband of fifty years Joseph; her children Trina (P), Shameem (Rodney) and Josef; her grandchildren Khalani, Ayana, Rodney Jr., Liya, JaBari, Rhadi, Attallah and Ayishah; her sister Chiquita; her brother Ricky (Evon); her nieces and nephews Viveca (Darren), Lisa (Quintin), Yomi (Rhonda), Shaunn (Jason), and Drew; great-nieces and great-nephews Quincy, Kennadie, Shakir, Bryce, Madison, and Jahi; and a host of cousins, loved ones, friends, and devoted Sorors of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc; and

WHEREAS, Richelle’s immeasurable impact touched countless lives through her advocacy for quality public health and community service. She is loved by many and her legacy will live in our hearts forever.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis pause in our deliberations to express our condolences to our colleague Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard and her family and by adoption of this Resolution join those celebrating and remembering life Richelle Annette Simmons Clark the mother of our respected colleague Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a memorial copy for presentation at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 11th day of December, 2020 by:
The Honorable Lewis Reed, President St. Louis Board of Aldermen
The Honorable Jeffrey Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward
The Honorable Tammika Hubbard, Alderwoman 5th Ward

Adopted this 11th day of December as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen