

*RESOLUTION NUMBER 331  
JULIA B. STEELE*

**WHEREAS**, we pause in our deliberations to note the untimely passing of longtime St. Louis resident, Julia B. Steele; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia was born on April 19, 1927, in West Point, Mississippi, to her parents Clarence Townsend and Bennie Will (Gibson) Townsend, who both preceded her in death. She is survived by six loving siblings, Clara Moore, Mattie Cooperwood (Roosevelt), Ruthie Baisden (Jimmie), Benjamin Townsend, Charles Townsend (Jewelette), and Nathaniel Townsend; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia professed hope and love in Christ at an early age and attended New Hope Missionary Baptist Church with her family in West Point, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia completed her education in Mississippi and moved to St. Louis in 1948. She was joined in holy matrimony to Emmett Young (who preceded her in death) and they had one child. Later, she married and had three children with Joseph Steele (who preceded her in death); and

**WHEREAS**, Julia was a faithful member of New Union Vine Missionary Baptist Church. She served diligently on the Mother's Board, the Usher Board and was active in Sunday School; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia had two loving children who preceded her in death, Benjamin Steele, Sr. (1995) and Vanessa Steele (2001). She is survived by her other two loving children, Delores (Young) Smart and Westley Steele, Sr. (Ramona); and

**WHEREAS**, Julia's grandchildren fondly referred to her as "Grandbaby" and she loved her nickname. Grandbaby's loving grandchildren are Laurie Bolden, Dedree (Smart) Thornton (Jerron), Benjamin Steele, Jr., Sharon McDaniels, Westley Steele, Jr., Mary Steele and Tracy Steele. Her loving great grandchildren are Scott (A.J.) McClendon, Jr., Marcus Jackson, Lauryn Jackson and Lauriel Scates; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia had a wonderful creative spirit and enjoyed gardening. She won "Most Outstanding Garden of the Year" from the St. Louis Urban League. Additionally, she loved spending quality time with family and friends. She participated in many social activities and community functions; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia devoted her life to family, extended family, and friends. She was "the rock" for her family and everyone could always depend on her in the time of need. She always made herself available in times of illness, marriage, death, and all other significant events; and

**WHEREAS**, Julia leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and neighbors to cherish her memory.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Julia B. Steele to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with her many friends in expressing our sorrow at her passing, and 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 to the Steele family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008 by:

**Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward**

Adopted this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen