

# State of Louisiana

## Parish of Caddo

In the Name and By the Authority of The  
Caddo Parish Commission

### Special Resolution of Remembrance for Ms. Elvira Helaire-Davis

**WHEREAS**, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with great respect and deep gratitude to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Elvira Helaire-Davis, a beloved matriarch, community icon, and one of the longest-living residents in the State of Louisiana, who passed away peacefully on Monday, October 27, 2025, at the remarkable age of 110; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Helaire-Davis was born on July 21, 1915, at Oakland Plantation near Natchitoches, Louisiana, the daughter of Felix Helaire and Martha Hamilton, and one of eight children raised by hardworking sharecropper parents whose resilience and values helped shape the strength she displayed throughout her long life; and

**WHEREAS**, her 110 years, 3 months, and 6 days of life spanned some of the most defining moments in American and world history, including two World Wars, the Great Depression, the Civil Rights Movement, the moon landing, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the tragedy of 9/11, and the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Helaire-Davis was affectionately described by her family as a "walking history," and her grace, wisdom, and presence connected generations to a living legacy of endurance, courage, and faith; and

**WHEREAS**, despite attending school only through the eighth grade, Mrs. Helaire-Davis was honored on her 106th birthday with an honorary high school diploma, arranged by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and presented by the Mayors of Natchitoches and Shreveport an achievement that fulfilled one of her lifelong goals and brought immense pride to her family; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Helaire-Davis was beloved throughout the Shreveport community, particularly in the MLK neighborhood, where she was celebrated on her 109th birthday with a parade, roses, balloons, and heartfelt tributes from neighbors who admired her strength, kindness, and longevity; and

**WHEREAS**, family members traced her ancestry to the Temne tribe of Sierra Leone, further enriching her family's understanding of their heritage and honoring the cultural legacy that she carried with dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Helaire-Davis treasured her family deeply, and her granddaughters remembered her joy at receiving birthday wishes from President Barack Obama—twice—and her amazement at witnessing the election of the first African-American president, as well as seeing her hometown of Natchitoches elect its first African-American mayor, Ronnie Whitten; and

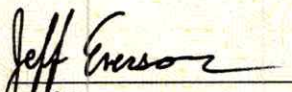
**WHEREAS**, she was cherished as the matriarch of her family, a stabilizing presence, and a source of guidance and inspiration whose life touched countless individuals across generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Caddo Parish Coroner's Office and the wider community recognized Mrs. Helaire-Davis for her contributions, spirit, and remarkable journey, and her passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who were blessed to know her; and

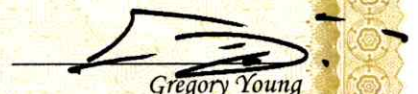
**WHEREAS**, final arrangements are entrusted to Heavenly Gates Funeral Home, as family and friends gather to celebrate her remarkable legacy and to honor the profound impact she made on her community and beyond.

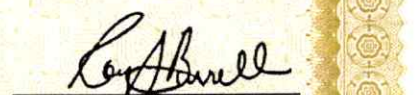
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby celebrate, honor, and forever remember the life and legacy of Mrs. Elvira Helaire-Davis, whose 110 years of purpose, perseverance, and love stand as a testament to the strength of the human spirit.

ATTEST:

  
Jeff Everson  
Commission Clerk



  
Gregory Young  
Commission District 2

  
Roy A. Burrell  
Commission District 5