

Special Resolution of Remembrance for Mrs. Helen West Walker

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission joins the family, friends, former students, colleagues, and the entire community in mourning the passing of Mrs. Helen West Walker, a devoted educator, mentor, and servant leader whose life was marked by love, cheer, patience, honesty, and kindness; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker was born in Winnfield, Louisiana, and became a lifelong learner whose passion for education and service shaped generations of students across North Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, Mrs. Walker became an educator and resident of Shreveport, Louisiana, where she made her home in the School Park Neighborhood and quickly became known for her engaging conversations filled with history, encouragement, and wisdom that inspired those who met her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker dedicated more than forty years to education, serving the Caddo Parish School System in numerous capacities including Supervisor of Student Teaching, Reading Specialist, Speech Teacher, and instructor of Health, Physical, and Safety Education; and

WHEREAS, while teaching at J.S. Clark Middle School and J.S. Clark Junior High School, she supported programs that emphasized children's health through play equity, physical movement, and exposure to the theatrical arts, reflecting her belief that connecting with nature and creative expression strengthens students' physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, as Cheerleading Coach at J.S. Clark, Mrs. Walker proudly led her squad to attend the National Cheerleaders Association Camp at Northwestern State University, where her team earned the prestigious NCA Cheerleading Spirit Award; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from Caddo Parish Schools, Mrs. Walker continued her educational mission as an Adjunct Professor at Southern University-Shreveport, where she significantly influenced her students' academic paths, encouraged personal growth, and emphasized economic empowerment, resilience, faith, family, and community responsibility; and

WHEREAS, since 1959, Mrs. Walker was a devoted member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and faithfully served on the Heritage and Archives Committee for the Shreveport Alumnae Chapter, preserving the history and legacy of her beloved sisterhood; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Grambling State University in 1962, her Master of Education degree from Northwestern State University in 1972, completed her Master's Degree Plus 30 in 1974, and later served as an Adjunct Professor at Southern University-Shreveport beginning in 2005—achievements accomplished during a time when people of color faced significant barriers to education and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, in her later years, Mrs. Walker resided in Atlanta, Georgia, with her beloved daughter, Mashona, while continuing to embody the same spirit of grace, wisdom, and compassion that defined her life in Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker's earthly remains will be returned to Shreveport, Louisiana, where her life will be celebrated with a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church on Friday, January 16, at 1:00 p.m., followed by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Omega Omega Service, a Wake and Visitation at Winnfield Funeral Home, and a Funeral Service on Saturday, January 17, at 11:30 a.m., with interment at Centuries Memorial Park and a repass at the church fellowship hall;

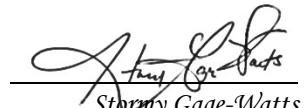
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby honor, recognize, and celebrate the extraordinary life, service, and legacy of Mrs. Helen West Walker, whose dedication to education, faith, and community uplifted countless lives; and

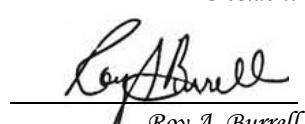
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission extends its deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to her family, loved ones, former students, and all who were blessed to know her; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to the family of Mrs. Helen West Walker as a lasting expression of gratitude and remembrance from the citizens of Caddo Parish.

ATTEST:


Jeff Everson
Commission Clerk


Stormy Gage-Watts
President


Roy A. Burrell
Commission District 5