



SR0648

LRB103 35628 MST 65702 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Ruth K. Gordon, who passed away on November 23, 2023; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon was born in Momence to Frank and Rose Karlock on April 23, 1930; she graduated from Crescent City High School and worked briefly at a hotel in Chicago; she then decided to start nurses' training at the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in Champaign; she married Maurice A. Gordon II at St. Malachy Catholic Church in Rantoul on January 2, 1954; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon's husband was drafted into the U.S. Army, and they started raising their family abroad; after her husband was honorably discharged, they returned to the family farm in Rantoul, where they lived most of their married life; and

12

13

14

15

16

WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon was a devoted wife and mother and worked part-time as a nurse when her four children were young; she was a creative person, taking millinery classes to make hats and woodworking classes to build furniture; she also designed the ranch-style house that she and her husband built on the home farm in 1972; and

17

18

19

20

21

1           WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon was an active member of St. Malachy  
2 Catholic Church in Rantoul, volunteering at both the parish  
3 and diocesan level; she became passionate about the pro-life  
4 movement in the early 70s and was very involved with Champaign  
5 County Right-to-Life and Birthright; she became involved with  
6 the Republican Party and its pro-life platform; she became the  
7 vice chairman of the Champaign County Republicans and worked  
8 on numerous campaigns for candidates, including Tim Johnson,  
9 Ronald Reagan, and Bob Dole; and

10           WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon and her husband became snowbirds in  
11 retirement; they traveled to their condo in Mesa, Arizona and,  
12 over time, they developed many wonderful friendships at the  
13 Fountain of the Sun; she became a landlady after she purchased  
14 and rented two additional condos in the complex; she also  
15 enjoyed taking trips, especially cruises, to many destinations  
16 and taking time to be with her grandchildren; and

17           WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon was preceded in death by her husband,  
18 Maurice; her baby sister, Irene; her brother, Frank; and his  
19 wife, Jean; and

20           WHEREAS, Ruth Gordon is survived by her children and their  
21 spouses, Bernard (Vickie) Gordon, Maurice (Dianna) Gordon,  
22 Susan (Bruce) Kloth, and Stephen (Rebecca) Gordon; her  
23 grandchildren and their spouses, Brian (Dee) Gordon, Chris

1 (Samantha) Gordon, Andrea (Steve) Martorana, Michael  
2 (Victoria) Gordon, Kate Gordon, Thomas (Mary) Gordon, Daniel  
3 (Freya) Gordon, Mary T. Gordon, Kevin (Enxhi) Gordon, Joshua  
4 (Laura) Kloth, Jason (Ronni) Kloth, Krista (Kirk) Vissat,  
5 Kacie (Dallas) Osterbur, and Devon (Chet) Little; and her  
6 great-grandchildren, Zabrina Gordon, Sadie Gordon, Jack  
7 Martorana, Caroline Martorana, Anne Martorana, Nicholas  
8 Gordon, Iris Gordon, Phoebe Gordon, Zoe Gordon, J.D. Kloth,  
9 James Kloth, Josie Kloth, Henry Kloth, Coretta Kloth, Thaddeus  
10 Kloth, Izabella Vissat, Gianna Vissat, Emma Osterbur, Kinsley  
11 Osterbur, Brynleigh Little, Jameson Gordon, and Faustina  
12 Gordon; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
15 Ruth K. Gordon and extend our sincere condolences to her  
16 family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it  
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Ruth Gordon as an expression of our  
20 deepest sympathy.