

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is with a heavy heart and great sadness that we express our condolences at the passing of Marian Robinson; and

WHEREAS, Marian Lois Shields was born in Chicago on July 29, 1937, to parents Rebecca Jumper and Purnell Nathaniel Shields; and

WHEREAS, Marian, the fourth of seven siblings here in Chicago, attended two years of teaching college before beginning her career as a secretary at the mail-order retailer Spiegel, a bank, and at the University of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Marian married fellow Chicagoan Fraser Robinson III, on October 27, 1960; and

WHEREAS, after the birth of two children, Craig and Michelle, Marian became a stay-at-home mother, stressed the importance of education to her children, and advocated for them strongly; and

WHEREAS, a Southsider through and through, Marian raised her kids in the South Shore neighborhood and stayed there until she moved to Washington, D.C. to help be a caretaker for her granddaughters; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Marian's son-in-law, Barack Obama, was elected the 44th president of the United States.

WHEREAS, Eight years later, after Barack Obama left office, Marian returned to Chicago where she lived out her remaining years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Obama has credited her, and her choices to send her kids to the Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Public Libraries, with much of the success and stability in her life; and

WHEREAS, that South Shore home where Marian raised her children has become somewhat of a monument in the South Side of Chicago—a memorial to the legacy of her daughter, her son-in-law, and their beginnings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twelfth day of June 2024, do hereby express our sorrow with the passing of Marian Robinson and extend our sincere condolences to her family and the countless lives she impacted through her children and as a stalwart member of the South Shore community, and honor her life and legacy as a great Chicagoan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Marian Robinson as a symbol of our honor and respect.