

## 2019-J3107

Senate Resolution No. 3107

BY: Senator PARKER

MOURNING the death of Cynthia V. Gray, family  
matriarch, distinguished citizen and devoted member  
of her community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to  
citizens of the State of New York whose lifework served to enhance the  
quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York;  
and

WHEREAS, Cynthia V. Gray died on Sunday, March 15, 2020, at the age  
of 79; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia Veronica Gray was born on April 19, 1940, to Sydney  
Madho and Evelyn (Wallace) Salmon in Duckensfield, St. Thomas, Jamaica,  
West Indies; on September 28, 1960, she married her husband, Kensley Roy  
Gray, Sr., and together, they migrated to the United States in 1970, and  
settled in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Flatbush where they raised six  
sons; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia V. Gray loved fiercely and taught her sons to  
respect family and encouraged them to live within their means; she  
valued the importance of being self-sufficient and taught her boys many  
lifelong skills; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia V. Gray, affectionately known by her husband as Cynti, was also a skilled cook and baker, who was always happy to share a meal and a slice of her famous black cake with her friends and neighbors; she baked the wedding cakes for all of her sons who got married and organized the food for all of their guests, and with these talents, dreamt of owning her own catering business; and

WHEREAS, For over 30 years, Cynthia V. Gray worked as a nurse's aide with Beth Israel Medical Center; after her much-deserved retirement, she and her husband moved to McKinney, Texas, in 2006, and became a faithful member of St. Mark Baptist Church, "The Mark"; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by her parents; son, Kensley Gray, Jr.; granddaughter, Katara; and 10 brothers and sisters, Albert, Daisey, Marcia, Philbert (Barber), Clarence, Hortensia (Utty), Emurdie, Earle, Christie, and Denzel; Cynthia V. Gray is survived by her husband of 59 years, Kensley Gray; five sons, Donovan (Sherran), Garfield (Salian), Steve, Hector (Bridgette), and Carl; nine grandchildren, Nicole, Joel, Renneth, Danielle, Alexander, Sasha, Elliott, Nicholas and Marcellus; three great-grandchildren, Daisha, Zion and Avery; and five brothers and sisters, Minnicent (Millicent), Faye, Loraine, Priestnell and Livingston; as well as numerous other family members and friends who will long cherish her memory; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Cynthia V. Gray leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Cynthia V. Gray, family matriarch, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Cynthia V. Gray.