

2021-J498

Senate Resolution No. 498

BY: Senator HARCKHAM

MOURNING the death of Meifang Yang, respected economist, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay proper tribute to individuals of great character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity; and

WHEREAS, With deep regret this Legislative Body records the passing of Meifang Yang, of Chappaqua, New York, on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at the age of 97, noting the loss of a citizen whose purposeful life and endeavors contributed so much to the quality of life in her community; and

WHEREAS, Meifang Yang was born on January 19, 1923, to Zengyi and Yuzhen Yang in Shanghai, China, where she learned to speak English at a young age; after graduating from St. John's University, she went on to become a respected economist at the Bank of China for the majority of her career; in her much deserved retirement, she was often asked to serve as a professional advisor for other institutions such as the Bank of Communications; and

WHEREAS, In 1950, Meifang Yang married Hanzhang Huang, and together, they raised their daughter, Ying Huang; and

WHEREAS, After the death of her husband in 1996, Meifang Yang moved to the United States to live with her daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters, and in 2009, she proudly became a United States citizen; and

WHEREAS, Meifang Yang lived an exceptionally beautiful life, overcoming two battles with cancer, first with breast cancer in her 40s and then stomach cancer in her 90s; in 2014, she was featured in Estee Lauder's Breast Cancer Awareness documentary, where she reflected on her experiences, and was given the honor of ringing the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange; and

WHEREAS, Meifang Yang truly loved her family and thoroughly enjoyed taking care of them; she liked to learn and discover new things and could often be found coloring, writing in her journal or reading a good book; and

WHEREAS, Meifang Yang is survived by her daughter, son-in-law, and two granddaughters, who will miss her kind words, warm smile and comforting spirit which will forever sustain them through both good and bad days for the rest of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Meifang Yang 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 Meifang Yang, respected economist, 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 Meifang Yang.