

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 87

By: Corn, Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Branan, Brogdon, Cain, Capps, Coates, Coffee, Crain, Crutchfield, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Fisher, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Harrison, Hobson, Johnson (Constance), Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich, Lerblance, Mazzei, Morgan, Myers, Nichols, Paddack, Pruitt, Rabon, Reynolds, Riley, Shurden, Taylor, Wilcoxson, Williamson, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution mourning the loss of Gloria Farley; recognizing her many accomplishments; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Gloria Stewart Farley was born October 21, 1916, in Heavener, Oklahoma, the daughter of Matthew Stewart, a doctor, and Virginia Upchurch Stewart, a librarian. She later married J. Ray Farley. Gloria Farley, however, spent most of her life in Heavener, Oklahoma. Her life changed forever when she first saw the Heavener Runestone, then known as Indian Rock; and

WHEREAS, Gloria Farley devoted a half century to research and record the evidence of the other nonnative peoples in America before Columbus. Her book, "In Plain Sight: Old World Records in Ancient America", was published in 1994, while her second book is scheduled for publication next year. She authored 66 published articles and presented over 50 lectures. Her extensive collection is being catalogued and displayed by the Oklahoma Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, Gloria Farley was a fellow of the Epigraphic Society and the Explorers Club, a charter member and trustee of the Institute for the Study of American Cultures, which honored her with the Root Cutter Award, a charter member of the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame, and an honorary member of Delta Kappa Gamma International. She also received an award for professional achievements from the Sons of Norway; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Gloria Farley's dedication and devotion, tireless energy and endless enthusiasm, resulted in the area she researched being transformed into Heavener Runestone State Park, a site visited annually by thousands of tourists and researchers trying to determine if the Runestone was the work of Vikings visiting North America. She accomplished all of this despite health problems in her family, a career teaching kindergarten, doing church

work, and being employed as a caseworker for the welfare system in Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate mourns the loss of Gloria Stewart Farley and offers its most heartfelt condolences to her family, coworkers, and many friends.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes the many accomplishments of Gloria Farley to bring national attention to southeastern Oklahoma and her foresight and perseverance that resulted in the reality of Heavener Runestone State Park.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to her sons, Scott Farley and Mark Farley, and to Heavener Runestone State Park.

Adopted by the Senate the 17th day of April, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate