



PROCLAMATION

HONORING RAMONA "MONI" GILMORE

REMEMBERING MONI....

Whereas, April 16, 2008 brought word of an incalculable loss for the residents of El Dorado County with the passing of Moni Gilmore, a grand lady and a vital and incredible community advocate; and

Whereas, Moni was an impassioned individual who invariably left an impression on those with whom she came in contact and whose dedication to serving as a voice for seniors was unparalleled. She is to be commemorated for her diligent efforts and unwavering commitment, which have been essential to the enhancement of opportunities for older adults residing in our community as she assisted in the planning, development and coordination of services while relentlessly advocating to ensure a senior services delivery system that positively impacts the health, honor, and dignity of our seniors; and

Whereas, Moni strived for progress and, since establishing residence in El Dorado Hills after retiring from professional public sector service, pursued active volunteer service, leaving her distinctive mark every step of the way. She served on the El Dorado County Commission on Aging for the past fifteen years, including a two-year term as Chair of the Commission and a three-year term as elected Senior Senator representing El Dorado County in the California Senior Legislature, providing strong leadership and guidance relative to aging issues and advocating on behalf of seniors in El Dorado County and beyond. As a member of the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Hills Fire Department, she was a successful advocate for Fire and Emergency Services; and

Whereas, Moni has been an icon in the community, always appearing at meetings and events in her signature wide-brimmed hats, and will be remembered for her love of the community and her fellow senior citizens. While she was a strong advocate for all senior services, she recognized that seniors also need to have fun. She informed and entertained us with her Village Life feature articles. She brought joy to her peers by organizing, and often sponsoring, several large parties annually to celebrate holidays or "just because" that were each attended by over 300 seniors. She was responsible for turning the annual Older Americans Day celebration into a memorable event that is attended by more than 700 senior citizens each year; and

Whereas, Moni had a "Can Do" attitude and would never take "No" for an answer. When she recognized a need, she simply proceeded to find a way to meet that need. It was through her determined efforts that the Senior Nutrition Program was expanded to El Dorado Hills. She advocated for and encouraged that expansion and even convinced two local developers to purchase a vehicle to help make the dream a reality. Rather than the standard white County vehicle, a purple truck was donated and became fondly known as the Purple People Feeder; and

Whereas, perhaps Moni's greatest legacy is her successful effort to establish a permanent Senior Center in El Dorado Hills. Through her work with the Commission on Aging and the El Dorado Hills Fire District she was instrumental in the acquisition of the old El Dorado Hills Fire Station for a dedicated Senior Center and Senior Day Care Center. She facilitated the donation of a plasma TV and establishment of a computer lab, fun bingo, cooking classes, and numerous other social activities at the Center, including the El Dorado Hills Senior Fun Time Band that performs at the monthly tea dance; and

Whereas, as an active True Rotarian for the past fifteen years, regularly attending meetings, serving on multiple committees and hosting Rotarians from other countries, Moni displayed the "Service above Self" belief every day of her life. She was honored a few years ago as the Quiet Rotarian, an award given to one person each year who quietly does a lot of work without seeking recognition, and in March of 2008 was recognized with a very rarely awarded Lifetime Honorary Membership; and

Whereas, Moni's zeal for the future of our aging residents was matched only by the unbridled love she held for her son Tom and her Maltese canines, currently Jack and Jake, and their predecessors Pate a Choux, Bogart, and Maximillian; and

Whereas, Moni rightfully earned the admiration and respect of individuals throughout the community, and while no mere words can adequately describe the profound impact that Moni has made in our County and while her presence in our lives will be sorely missed, the precedents she set, the projects she initiated and the changes she instituted will live on forever in reality and in our memories, thereby enriching our lives and our community.

Now, therefore, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim recognition and remembrance of Moni Gilmore as the supreme volunteer. She was a shining star to follow... if you could keep up with her.

Passed and Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board on May 6, 2008.

Attest:
Cindy Keck
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy

Chairman, Board of Supervisors