

1 Introduced by Council Member Salem and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Becton, Diamond, Morgan and Ferraro:

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4 **RESOLUTION 2020-76**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
6 LIFE AND CIVIC DEDICATION OF GERALDINE
7 "GERRIE" DAWKINS ATKINSON; PROVIDING AN
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Geraldine "Gerrie" Dawkins Atkinson, a native of
11 Fayetteville, North Carolina, was a long-time member of the
12 Jacksonville community, was among the first residents of the Fort
13 Caroline Club Estates subdivision, and was a retired employee of
14 the City of Jacksonville Public Library System where she dedicated
15 her professional life to serving others, especially Jacksonville's
16 children; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Gerrie Atkinson was known for decades as a tireless
18 advocate for the Arlington area, particularly its parks and its
19 tree canopy. She was a relentless proponent for the acquisition of
20 properties that are now known as Victory Park and Gerrie's Park
21 (formerly Fort Caroline Playground), which was named in her honor
22 in 2008 to commemorate her dedication to tending to, improving,
23 overseeing and loving the park at her own time and expense; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Atkinson was also a tireless advocate for good
25 governance and active citizen participation in the governmental
26 process. She was a long-time member of the Greater Arlington Civic
27 Council as well as the Arlington-Beaches Citizens Planning and
28 Advisory Council (CPAC), and was especially knowledgeable and vocal
29 about zoning and recreation issues; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the City Council was saddened to learn recently of
31 Gerrie Atkinson's passing at the age of 96, and wishes to celebrate

1 her legacy of civic involvement and love for her community; now
2 therefore

3 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

4 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
5 commemorates the life and countless civic accomplishments of
6 Geraldine "Gerrie" Dawkins Atkinson upon the occasion of her
7 passing, and extends to her family, friends and countless admirers
8 the City's most sincere condolences. Gerrie Atkinson was a model
9 citizen and her enthusiasm and devotion to her community will be
10 long and gratefully remembered.

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
12 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
13 without the Mayor's signature.

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15 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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