

## **RESOLUTION 21-16**

### **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE STATE OF TENNESSEE NAME A BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 396 OVER KEDRON ROAD IN HONOR OF J.B. NAPIER AND SHIRLEY NAPIER**

**WHEREAS**, there is a bridge on State Highway 396 over Kedron Road, being Federal Bridge No. 60SR396004 and State Bridge No. 60-01907-2.83; and

**WHEREAS**, J. B. Napier was born on May 14, 1928 to John Bunch Napier and Connie Crews Napier; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Napier was educated in Maury County schools, having attended McDowell Elementary School, J.R. Whitthorne Junior High, and was a proud graduate of the former Columbia Military Academy; and

**WHEREAS**, he went on to briefly attend the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, but subsequently joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed at Parris Island, SC as a Weapons Instructor during the Korean Conflict. After his military service, he joined the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, DC where he served for several years; and

**WHEREAS**, upon returning to Columbia, he opened Napier Bryant Service Station with Mack Bryant. It was located one block south of the Maury County Courthouse and they ran this business together for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 25, 1954, he married the former Shirley Anne Thompson of Mt. Pleasant, TN. They have four adult children; Tim (Dawn) Napier, Stan (Lesha) Napier, Steve (Lori) Napier, and Millie (Bart) Fite; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Napier started a new business known for many years as Southern Termite and Pest Control Company, later becoming Pestco Systems, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, during his lifetime, Mr. Napier pursued various interests including agriculture/soil conservation which included his involvement with agriculture, running a family Century Farm that included registered Black Angus cattle, burley tobacco, and various row crops. At one time, it was said that the tobacco barn located on Napier Farm was the largest in Maury County. Mr. Napier championed soil conservation at the local, state, and national levels. He served as Past Chairman of the Maury County Soil Conservation Districts, Past President of the Tennessee Association of Conservation Districts, Past Board Member of the National Association of Conservation Districts, and Past Council Member of the National Association of Conservation Districts; and

**WHEREAS**, in the business world he served as a member of the Tennessee Pest Control Licensing Board, and as President of the Tennessee Pest Control Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Napier served his community on the local governing body, formerly known as the Quarterly Court (i.e. now the County Commission) from 1970 to 1982. Starting in 1982 through 1996, he served in the Tennessee State Legislature representing the 64th District which encompassed Maury County. As a state legislator, he served as the Chairman of the Transportation Committee. A highlight of his political career was that of serving as a Delegate to the 1980 Democratic National Convention held in New York City that same year; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Napier was a member of the Graymere Church of Christ. He was very involved in his community, serving as a lifelong member of the Kiwanis Club and American Legion Post 19. He served on the Advisory Board of Directors for First Farmers and Merchants Bank and the Board of Trustees of the Maury Regional Hospital. In 2004, he was honored to be named the Grand Marshal of the Columbia Mule Day Parade; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to his numerous achievements he was awarded the George F. Hixson Fellowship Award from the Columbia Kiwanis Club and the Liberty Bell Award presented by the Maury County Bar Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Napier died on June 4, 2019 at the age of 91; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Shirley Anne Thompson Napier was born on March 2, 1933 to James W. Thompson, Sr. and Mildred Shannon Thompson; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Napier was educated in Maury County schools, having attended elementary and junior high school in Mt. Pleasant, and was a proud graduate of the Class of 1951 of Hay Long High School (the predecessor to Mount Pleasant High School); and

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1940's, she rode a mule in the Mule Day Parade in an event billed as "a thousand pretty girls on a thousand mules". While in high school, she was an outstanding basketball player at Hay Long High School, where she was named to the "All District" and "All Regional" teams as a high-scoring offensive player; and

**WHEREAS**, she attended Martin Methodist College from 1951-1953, where she continued being a leading scorer for her team. The 1951-1952 team had a record of 15-3, while the 1952-1953 team posted a 14-5 record. Following the 1952-1953 season, her teammates selected her for the "Most Valuable Player Award", presented by the Jaycees. While at Martin Methodist, she was very involved in campus life, and was selected as an Attendant to the Basketball Homecoming Queen; and

**WHEREAS**, she was actively involved raising four children and in the family business, Southern Termite and Pest Control; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1975, Mrs. Napier became the Clerk and Master for Maury County. She held this position until 1998 when she retired. During her tenure as the County's Clerk and Master she served as the President of the Tennessee State Court Clerks Association, Vice-President of the Tennessee County Officials Association, and was an officer in the Middle Tennessee Clerks Association; and

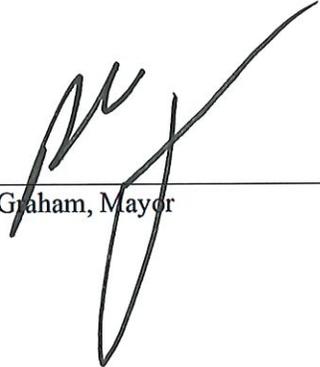
**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Napier also received the Liberty Bell Award from the Maury County Bar Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Napier died on March 8, 2020 at the age of 87; and

**WHEREAS**, it would be appropriate to name the bridge on State Highway 396 over Kedron Road, being Federal Bridge No. 60SR396004 and State Bridge No. 60-01907-2.83, after these fine Maury County citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Spring Hill Board of Mayor and Aldermen that State Highway Officials and other appropriate state officials be advised of this resolution, and request that the bridge on State Highway 396 over Kedron Road, being Federal Bridge No. 60SR396004 and State Bridge No. 60-01907-2.83 be named the J.B. Napier and Shirley Napier Memorial Bridge.

This the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

  
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Rick Graham, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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April Goad, City Recorder

LEGAL FORM APPROVED:

  
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Patrick Carter, City Attorney