

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-51

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF EMMA JEAN HARRIS

WHEREAS, Emma Jean Harris, a longtime resident of Somerville Dr., in Oakwood Village since 1971, passed away Wednesday, June 11th, 2025, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean was born on December 9th, 1937, in Leeds, AL to Frankie L. Webb and M. L. Richardson. Emma moved to Cleveland, OH in pursuit of a better life than the segregated south; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean loved her family and enjoyed spending time with friends. She enjoyed many family and school reunions. She was a lead majorette in the Robert Russa Moton High School band. A singer in her church choir at Macedonia Baptist Church, and a keeper of family history were things she enjoyed at an early age; and

WHEREAS, In September of 1962, Emma Jean married Sumlor Harris, Sr. From that union three children were born, Sumlor Harris Jr., Clifford Harris, and Ericka Harris. They resided in the Feiner Estates area in Cleveland, OH, before building their forever home in Oakwood Village. They were one of the original homeowners in the Cape Cod Estate. The friendships established in this unique enclave have stood the test of time. Second and third generations of families have forged close bonds that continue to this day; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean joined Morning Star Baptist Church in Cleveland, OH in the 1980's, and became immediately involved in being a Youth Sunday School Teacher, and a lead singer in the Mass Choir, and Cole Aires Choir. After, she joined Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Oakwood Village where her husband became a member. She immediately became an active choir member, involved in feeding the homeless, and other ministries where she was called to serve; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean was a virtuous woman, a neighborly neighbor, she would feed you, sing for you at various occasions, call you on your birthday, and support you anyway she could; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean Harris was preceded in death by parents, M.L. and Frankie L. Richardson, brother, Eddie Lee and sister-in-law Emma L., sister, Barbara Lois, by her sons, Sumlor Jr. and Clifford, a great grandson, Salute, and niece, Sharon; and

WHEREAS, Emma Jean Harris was survived by her daughter, Ericka Dean (Orlando), grandchildren: Cierra, Jasmin, Orlando Jr., Ivey, and great grandsons, Cincere, and Cash and nephews, Kenneth (Tracey) and Norman, and a host of relatives and friends. She will truly be missed and forever remembered by the ones who truly loved her.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT by the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The Village Council, Mayor, and the community at large wishes to express condolences at this time to the Harris family. We hope that the fond memories of such a wonderful, caring person comfort them in their loss. A celebration of life was held Friday, June 27th, 2025, in Oakwood Village.

SECTION 2. The Clerk is hereby authorized to present a copy of this resolution to the family of Emma Jean Harris.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approved by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: 7.8.25

Tanya A. Joseph
Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council

Erica L. Nikolic
Erica Nikolic, President of Council

Presented to the Mayor 7.9.25

Approved: 7.18.25

Gary V. Gottschalk
Mayor, Gary V. Gottschalk

I, Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2025-51 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the 8 day of July, 2025.

Tanya A. Joseph
Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 2025-51 was duly posted on the 18th day of July, 2025, and will remain posted in accordance with the Oakwood Village Charter.

Tanya A. Joseph
Tanya A. Joseph, Clerk of Council

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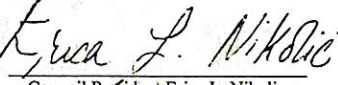
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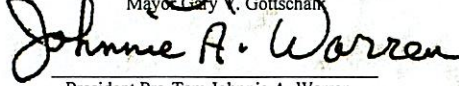
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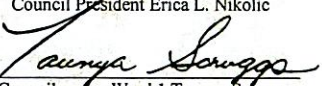
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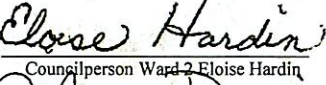
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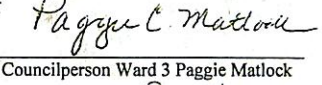

Mayor Gary V. Gottschalk

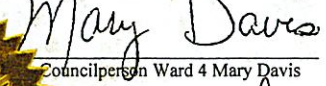

Council President Erica L. Nikolic



President Pro-Tem Johnnie A. Warren

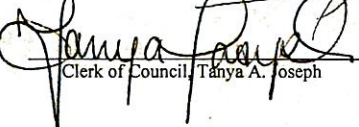

Councilperson Ward 1 Taunya Schuggs


Councilperson Ward 2 Eloise Hardin


Councilperson Ward 3 Paggie Matlock


Councilperson Ward 4 Mary Davis


Councilperson Ward 5 Candace S. Hill


Clerk of Council, Tanya A. Joseph

