

Assembly Resolution No. 496

BY: M. of A. Seawright

MOURNING the death of Caroline Joyce Whitby,
distinguished citizen and devoted member of her
community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavors served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, We honor the life of Caroline Joyce Whitby who died on April 22, 2023, at 88 years old; and

WHEREAS, Born on September 24, 1934, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Caroline Joyce Whitby obtained her Bachelors of Science Degree from Carlow University and her Masters of Social Work Degree from Fordham University; and

WHEREAS, Later becoming a psychoanalyst, Caroline Joyce Whitby received her training from The New York Psychoanalytic Institute; and

WHEREAS, A community activist, Caroline Joyce Whitby served as a member of her local East Hampton Library, Secretary of the Executive Board and parishioner of St. Michaels Lutheran Church in Amagansett, Secretary and former President of the Hampton Waters Property Owners Association, Inc., and as a member of the National Association of Social Workers, delivering a paper at its distinguished conference in Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Joyce Whitby was Co-Founder of EEGO, the East End Gay Organization, an usher at East Hampton's Guild Hall and also hosted a myriad of events at her home in Long Island, including a large dinner party fundraiser for the East Hampton Library's Annual event, the Feminist Press, and Bob Kerry for President events; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong feminist and LGBTQ activist, Caroline Joyce Whitby was proud of her work as a member of the Board of Directors of SAGE, providing advocacy and services for LGBT Elders and served on the Board of Directors of the Feminist Press at CUNY, an educational nonprofit organization founded to advance women's rights and amplify feminist perspectives; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Caroline Joyce Whitby was also an editor of Roe v. Wade attorney Sarah Weddington's "A Question of Choice"; and

WHEREAS, A woman of many talents and passions, Caroline Joyce Whitby was an avid reader, a gourmet cook, enjoyed eating good food, drank fine wine, and loved her cats Mindy, Jack, and Mimi; she was known for preparing exquisite scallops provencal and bourbon-soaked ham among other dishes; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Joyce Whitby was married to the late Betty D. Fox for 48 years and is the mother to Duong "James" Fox, mother-in-law to Hien Ngoc, and grandmother to 3-year-old Jack and 1-year-old Betty; and

WHEREAS, For over 50 years, Caroline Joyce Whitby has resided in East Hampton and New York City's West Village at Sheridan Square; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Joyce Whitby's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit imbued with a sense of compassion, Caroline Joyce Whitby leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing woman; she will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Caroline Joyce Whitby, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Caroline Joyce Whitby.