

REFERENCE TITLE: **Ava Arpaio; death resolution.**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2021

## **HCR 2043**

Introduced by  
Representatives Kavanagh: Chaplik, Roberts, Senator Ugenti-Rita

**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ON THE DEATH OF AVA ARPAIO.**

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1           Ava Jeraldene Arpaio passed away on March 20, 2021 at the age of  
2 eighty-nine after a courageous fight with cancer.

3           Born on August 25, 1931, Ava grew up in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Ava  
4 was one of twelve siblings who were raised in a small farmhouse with no  
5 plumbing but with an abundance of laughter. Ava met Joe Arpaio on a blind  
6 date in Washington, D.C. in 1954. The couple soon became inseparable and  
7 married three years later. Joe became a federal narcotics agent, and he  
8 and Ava spent the early years of their marriage in various other  
9 countries, including Turkey and Mexico, where Ava entertained diplomats  
10 and dignitaries.

11           Ava had a multitude of diverse adventures throughout her joy-filled  
12 life, including running her own dance studio and helping her husband make  
13 drug busts by dancing and dining with informants. After the couple moved  
14 to Chicago, Ava pursued a lifelong dream of attending beauty school. In  
15 1978, they moved to Arizona where Ava started a travel agency, which she  
16 ran with her son, Rocco, and which became the longest running in  
17 Scottsdale.

18           Most recently, Ava walked the campaign trail in support of her  
19 husband, Joe, and owned and managed commercial properties in Scottsdale  
20 and Fountain Hills. She also helped her daughter set up and run the  
21 world's only Catholic tearoom where she greeted and charmed guests with  
22 her southern hospitality, sparkling green eyes and engaging smile.  
23 Through Joe's almost sixty years in law enforcement and public service,  
24 Ava never wavered in her dedication to her husband. Known for her  
25 humility and grace, Ava labored every day of her life to help make her  
26 family happy and fulfilled.

27           A soft-spoken and supportive wife, mother and friend, Ava is  
28 survived by her husband of sixty-three years, Joe, her two children,  
29 Sherry (Phil) and Rocco (Renee), her brother-in-law, Michael, and her  
30 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

31 Therefore

32 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,  
33 the Senate concurring:

34           That the Members of the Legislature express their deepest  
35 condolences to the family and friends of Ava Arpaio.