

House Engrossed

Allister Adel; death resolution

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2044

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF ALLISTER ADEL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Allister Adel DeNitto passed away at the age of forty-five on
2 April 30, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona.

3 Born on November 10, 1976 in Dallas, Texas, Allister was raised in a
4 tight-knit family, and she especially adored her father and grandfather.
5 Growing up, they would often visit South Padre Island, a place she loved
6 to return to as an adult with her own family.

7 After earning her undergraduate degree from the University of
8 Arizona, Allister earned her law degree from the Sandra Day O'Connor
9 College of Law at Arizona State University to pursue her dream of becoming
10 a prosecutor. During her studies, she volunteered as a victim advocate,
11 participated in moot court competitions and took as many courses as she
12 could with her favorite professor, the late Michael Berch. She was named
13 valedictorian of her 2004 graduating class.

14 In 2002, Allister married David DeNitto, and together they have two
15 sons. Her boys were her pride and joy and the lights of her life, and she
16 was often heard extolling all their wonderful qualities and
17 accomplishments.

18 Brilliant and kind with a razor-sharp wit and excellent sense of
19 humor, Allister loved to laugh and reveled in playing quirky pranks on her
20 family and friends such as "flocking" her friends' houses with flamingos
21 on their birthdays.

22 A devoted public servant, Allister was dedicated to improving the
23 lives of those around her. She began her legal career at the Maricopa
24 County Attorney's Office where she was an award-winning felony prosecutor
25 and tirelessly advocated for victims' rights. During her tenure as deputy
26 county attorney, Allister served in the Vehicular Crimes, Gang and Drug
27 Enforcement bureaus and served as the chief administrative law judge for
28 the Arizona Department of Transportation. Later, she was appointed as the
29 general counsel for the Arizona Department of Child Safety where she
30 worked to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens. Her dedication to
31 protecting and serving children was her passion and top priority
32 throughout her distinguished career. She also proudly served for two
33 years as the executive director of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

34 A true trailblazer, Allister made history when she was appointed to
35 the position of Maricopa County Attorney in October 2019, the first woman
36 in Arizona history to hold that title. She described that esteemed
37 appointment as her "dream job." The following year, she continued to
38 shatter glass ceilings as the first woman elected to that position.

39 True to her beliefs, Allister was dedicated to philanthropy and
40 community service, and one of her most profound and formative experiences
41 was becoming a Rotarian. From 2017-2018, she served as the president of
42 Phoenix Rotary 100, where she raised funds to support organizations that
43 were on the forefront of fighting human trafficking. She also worked with
44 the City of Phoenix to fund a fellowship area and butterfly garden at

1 Starfish Place, a transitional housing facility for trafficking survivors
2 and their families.

3 A dedicated mother, wife and public servant, Allister was deeply
4 devoted to her community and was unwavering in her commitment to ensuring
5 fairness and justice. She is survived by her husband of twenty years,
6 David, her two sons and her father, John. She will be missed by her
7 family, her many friends and the people of Arizona.

8 Therefore

9 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,
10 the Senate concurring:

11 That the Members of the House of Representatives sincerely regret
12 the passing of Allister Adel and extend their most sincere sympathies and
13 condolences to her surviving relatives and friends.