

REFERENCE TITLE: Yvonne Fedderson; death resolution

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Introduced by

Representatives Gress: Austin, Biasiucci, Blackman, Blattman, Bliss, Carbone, Carter P, Cavero, Chaplik, Connolly, Contreras L, Contreras P, Crews, De Los Santos, Diaz, Fink, Garcia, Gillette, Griffin, Gutierrez, Heap, Hendrix, Hernandez A, Hernandez C, Hernandez L, Keshel, Kolodin, Livingston, Lopez, Luna-Nájera, Márquez, Marshall, Martinez, Mathis, Montenegro, Nguyen, Olson, Peña, Peshlakai, Pingerelli, Powell, Rivero, Simacek, Stahl Hamilton, Taylor, Travers, Tsosie, Villegas, Volk, Way, Weninger, Willoughby, Wilmeth

A RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF YVONNE GLEE LIME FEDDERSON.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Yvonne Glee Lime Fedderson passed away on January 23, 2026 at the
2 age of 90. She lived a life defined by courage, compassion and a profound
3 commitment to the protection of children across the globe.

4 Yvonne Fedderson was born on April 7, 1935 in Glendale, California.
5 She had first captured the hearts of Americans on screen before dedicating
6 her gifts of empathy, leadership and determination to a far greater
7 purpose, serving the most vulnerable children in the world.

8 Yvonne and her lifelong friend, Sara O'Meara, cofounded the
9 humanitarian organization that would become Childhelp, which has since
10 aided more than 14 million children and families through prevention,
11 intervention, treatment and advocacy programs.

12 Yvonne's work knew no borders. She helped form and support
13 orphanages, schools and medical facilities for children in need and
14 coordinated major rescue efforts to bring thousands of vulnerable children
15 to safety and stable homes, demonstrating the boundless reach of her
16 compassion.

17 Yvonne helped establish the first residential treatment village in
18 the United States for abused and severely neglected children, pioneering a
19 healing model that has since inspired national standards for
20 trauma-informed care.

21 Yvonne helped secure recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention
22 Month, advanced nationwide awareness campaigns and championed major events
23 and initiatives that mobilized the country toward protecting children from
24 harm.

25 Yvonne cofounded the first national 24-hour toll-free child abuse
26 hotline, later expanding it to include text and chat capabilities,
27 ensuring that help, hope and a listening ear were always available to
28 children and families in crisis.

29 Yvonne transformed how communities respond to child abuse by opening
30 Childhelp Children's Advocacy Centers in Arizona, Tennessee and beyond.
31 These centers brought together law enforcement, medical providers, child
32 protection officials and advocates in one safe and supportive location, a
33 model now replicated nationwide.

34 Yvonne introduced the first mobile children's advocacy center in the
35 country, extending services to rural and underserved communities where
36 vulnerable children often had nowhere else to turn.

37 Yvonne championed groundbreaking prevention education, including
38 launching Childhelp Speak Up, Be Safe, the first evidence-based child
39 abuse prevention curriculum for preschool through grade twelve, empowering
40 generations of children with the tools to recognize unsafe situations and
41 seek help.

42 Yvonne's extraordinary leadership earned her international
43 recognition, humanitarian awards, national honors and even nominations for
44 the Nobel Peace Prize, yet she accepted each accolade only as a reminder
45 of the work still to be done for children who needed her voice.

1 Yvonne Glee Lime Fedderson's life's work reflects the highest ideals
2 of service, faith and human dignity, and her legacy lives on in every
3 child saved, every family strengthened and every life touched by the
4 compassion of Childhelp. She will long be remembered as a true
5 humanitarian whose unwavering dedication, vision and love changed the
6 course of child welfare in the United States and around the world.

7 Therefore

8 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona:

9 1. That the Members of the House of Representatives express their
10 profound sympathy to the family, loved ones and countless admirers of
11 Yvonne Glee Lime Fedderson and honor the immeasurable impact of her life.

12 2. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Resolution
13 to the family of Yvonne Glee Lime Fedderson and to Childhelp.