

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING LILY GONZALES FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO  
3 NEW MEXICO.

4  
5 WHEREAS, "Though she be but little, she is fierce!" is a  
6 quote from William Shakespeare that aptly described  
7 Lily Gonzales, a five-foot tall former Santa Fe police  
8 officer and probate judge who died on February 20, 2019 in  
9 Santa Fe; and

10 WHEREAS, Lily was born on June 20, 1934 in Santa Fe; and

11 WHEREAS, Lily's parents were deaf, so Lily learned to  
12 sign to communicate with them and never forgot the importance  
13 of tight family bonds; and

14 WHEREAS, Lily was resourceful and learned to make her  
15 own clothes and valued taking care of people; and

16 WHEREAS, Lily was a trailblazer when she became a  
17 Santa Fe police officer in the early 1960s; and

18 WHEREAS, Lily was the first female officer with the  
19 Santa Fe police department to make law enforcement a career  
20 and was the first woman to retire from the department with  
21 about twenty years of service; and

22 WHEREAS, Lily was an investigator, a dispatcher and a  
23 community liaison with the department, jobs that exposed her  
24 to some horrific crime scenes as well as the rewards of  
25 interacting with schools and community organizations; and

1           WHEREAS, through her long law enforcement career, Lily  
2 never had any issues with being small and making arrests; and

3           WHEREAS, in 1998, Lily was looking for a new career when  
4 a friend mentioned the county probate court judge was about  
5 to retire; and

6           WHEREAS, Lily entered the race, was elected, and served  
7 as probate judge for twelve years; and

8           WHEREAS, as a probate judge, Lily officiated at weddings  
9 at the Santa Fe county courthouse and even hosted some  
10 weddings in her home in the Bellamah neighborhood and at  
11 fancy venues; and

12           WHEREAS, seeing the complications that often ensued when  
13 someone died without a will and the estate had to be  
14 probated, Lily always stressed the importance of having a  
15 will; and

16           WHEREAS, Lily was preceded in death by her sons, John  
17 and Leonard C de Baca; and

18           WHEREAS, Lily is survived by her husband,  
19 Miguel Gonzales; her daughter, Miquela Gonzales; six  
20 grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren;

21           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
22 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Lily Gonzales be honored for her  
23 dedication to New Mexico and her many years of public service  
24 in law enforcement and as a probate judge; and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

