

SENATE RESOLUTION No.1849

A RESOLUTION congratulating Gilbert and Barbara Knipp on being named the longest married couple in Kansas.

WHEREAS, Gilbert and Barbara Knipp have been married for 72 years and were selected as the Longest Married Couple in Kansas by Worldwide Marriage Encounter; and

WHEREAS, Seventy-four years ago, Gilbert Knipp was living in Scott City and made a trip to Wichita with a few friends to look at farm equipment. He had no idea he would meet his wife that day; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert and his friends stopped at a house while in Wichita, where he met Barbara. Barbara was engaged at the time, but she knew instinctively that Gilbert was the man for her; and

WHEREAS, That very night, Gilbert, Barbara and some friends went dancing, which sealed the deal for Barbara. She was head over heels for Gilbert; and

WHEREAS, When Gilbert and his friends drove back to Scott City, Barbara's mother rode with them and during the ride, Barbara's mother told Gilbert that Barbara was in love with him; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert and Barbara spent the next two years in a long-distance relationship writing numerous letters back and forth as he was in Scott City and she was in Wichita; and

WHEREAS, The couple married on June 14, 1939, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita; and

WHEREAS, After nearly 73 years of marriage, they have six children, Daniel, Sara, Anita, John, Sam and Ruth, 14 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert and Barbara credit their deep religious faith and shared interests with the longevity of their relationship; and

WHEREAS, The couple says they cannot imagine a better life or having lived it with anyone else: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate Gilbert and Barbara Knipp on being named the longest married couple in Kansas and commend them on 72 years of marriage. We wish them and the entire Knipp family continued love and happiness; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Ostmeyer.

Senate Resolution No. 1849 was sponsored by Senator Ralph Ostmeyer.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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Secretary of the Senate.