

ROARK-CONNER ASSOCIATION

A RESOLUTION of the Roark-Conner Association to honor the memory of MR. GENE F. JOHNSON, and to record its deep sorrow upon his death.

WHEREAS, the Roark-Conner Association Board of Directors assembled on April 25, 2020, and on behalf of the membership, desired to express and record its deep sorrow upon the death, on January 16, 2020, of our beloved and esteemed relative and friend, Gene Johnson, who nobly served this Association; and

WHEREAS, the Roark-Conner Association has benefited significantly from Gene Johnson's unwavering devotion, outstanding leadership, and unparalleled benevolence; and

WHEREAS, by outstanding merit and diligent service Gene Johnson was elected and served with great distinction as President of this Association in 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, Gene Johnson chaired the 50th Roark-Conner Reunion in 2008, and collaborated in developing the *Heritage Trail Book* featuring a tour of 37 sites of historical significance in the Birchwood area; and

WHEREAS, Gene Johnson surveyed 38 cemeteries in the communities of Birchwood, Friendship and Harrison, TN, and provided information used to create *The Cemeteries of Interest to the Roark-Conner Families*; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Gene Johnson represented the Association and also coordinated with the Tennessee Society Sons of the American Revolution to honor two patriots buried at the Conner Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Gene Johnson authored a number of books, including his own autobiography, *Reflections*, and was well-known for his excellent research abilities in establishing family roots and recording their history in the communities of Birchwood, Friendship, and Harrison, TN.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that for Gene Johnson's truly immeasurable benefits and contributions to this Association, and the manner in which he endeared himself to all who came to know him, it is well and appropriate that this Association hereby render this formal expression of its grievous loss in his death; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this **RESOLUTION** will be included in the minutes of this Board, in the Association's Newsletter, as well as on the Roark-Conner Website, to serve as a permanent tribute to the memory of our departed relative and friend, truly an extraordinary gentleman who left a lasting and incredible impression on this Association and on all who knew him.

Connie R. Perrin, Secretary

Terry L. Roark, President, 2020

Adopted: _____