

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

FOR

FRANCES R. WALLAS

Fran Wallas came from a long line of strong, smart, unstoppable women and had a history of standing up for what she believed in. She was a respected athlete in many sports throughout her school years and might have found her way to outdoor adventures in her early adulthood, but the responsibilities inherent in becoming a mother when she was in her early 20s directed her away from riskier pursuits. As a young woman she participated in lunch counter sit-ins to challenge racial segregation and marched to end the Vietnam War, and later protested against the storage of nuclear waste in Oak Ridge. She became a social worker to assist abused and neglected children and women in domestic violence situations. Her decision to become a lawyer developed from her desire to improve the world through principled action.

A member of Phi Beta Kappa who at one time taught English and History, she went to the Nashville School of Law at night and earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence, while balancing her responsibilities as a parent of three children. In 1984, she took a job with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation which turned out to be her true calling in life. Fran had always encouraged a love of nature in her children and allowed them free rein in the woods, creeks and parks that were always nearby. In turn, seeing her children biking, horseback riding, backpacking and spelunking served as an inspiration for her to begin outdoor adventures in her adulthood. Many would be surprised to learn that she didn't start her serious outdoor pursuits until she was in her 40s. Initially, she began biking country roads that skirted the Harpeth River between her house and downtown Franklin, TN with a group of friends who called themselves the Half-Fast Biking club. As they began to hike and paddle the name evolved into the Wild Asters. Fran lived a complete and wonderful life and found a lot of pleasure in culture pursuits. When she wasn't outside on the weekends then she was at a play, a musical performance, a movie, out to eat with friends, or up late solving a puzzle or crossword. Or, she was on a trip overseas to experience a part of the world that intrigued her. Balancing her natural feistiness was an insatiable curiosity about the world, a light sense of humor and playfulness, and a tremendous heart. She subscribed to the philosophy of burning one's candle at both ends so as not to miss a moment.

As the chief attorney for Tennessee's state parks for 25 years, she helped build the award winning state parks that we all enjoy today. Stories of her dedication and attention to detail were legendary such as the months she spent tracking down a value for each eradicated plant specimen in a Nature Conservancy Site, or the negotiations behind the construction of villas at Pickett State Park. The Tennessee Conservationist, a department publication, featured her articles called "Great Hikes in Tennessee State Parks." The columns have been cited as a major factor in the magazine winning the 2008 Outstanding media Award from the American Trails Association.

With her trusted canine sidekicks, Rosie and Elmo, she would jump in her Chevy pick-up with a camper top every weekend and travel the trails of Tennessee. As a member of the Great Smoky Mountains 900 miler Club, she had hiked all 900 miles of maintained trails in the National Park. Spend an hour with her, and her love for Tennessee's outdoors was clear. Spend a day with her, and it became obvious that she shaped the state's outdoors as much as she appreciated it.

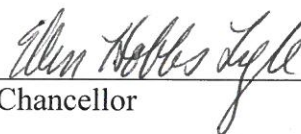
Fran was the model public servant. She embraced public service and gave everything she had to her job. She was the consummate professional. Every opinion she gave was well researched and candid. She was firm in her opinions but listened to everyone's point of view. She was a role model for other attorneys. She lived every day to the fullest and made the world a better place. She never complained about anything and never said a negative word about anyone. She brightened every day. Such a spirit is infectious and we don't really appreciate how that energy fills the air until it is gone.

Fran was taken from us much too early. She passed away peacefully on Oct. 20th, 2010 from complications sustained in a fall. She will be missed by many and remembered each time we hike a trail, climb a mountain, paddle a river, and have our face warmed by the sun. She is out there now, heeding the call from nature, and having an adventure.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Nashville Bar Association that we honor the life and work of Frances R. Wallas and mourn in her passing the loss of a dear friend, a beloved Mother and Grandmother, and a champion of the law, the environment and a better way of life.

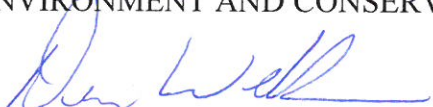
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this memorial resolution be placed in the permanent records of the association and entered in the "In Memoriam" minute book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County, Tennessee, and the copies thereof be furnished to her three enlightened children, David Wallas, Adam Wallas and Rebecca Wallas Arce. Your mother has made the world a better place for us all and we are eternally grateful.

ENTER this 17 day of November, 2011.


Chancellor

Approved for Entry:

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION


Devin M. Wells
Assistant General Counsel