



## **A MEMORIAL RESOLUTION HONORING James Ray Jarrell**

*Whereas*, God, our loving Father, in the light of His wisdom, and in the magnitude of His power, has removed from our profession and from our Chain of Friendship, a shining link in the name of our dearest brother, **Mr. James Ray Jarrell**, and added it to the Friendship Chain of His Kingdom;

*Whereas*, **Brother James Ray Jarrell**, a generous, compassionate, and steadfast friend; a respected and visionary leader; an unflinching activist who protested segregated public library services in the early 1960s; and an invaluable supporter of the **Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Inc.**, whose departure we so deeply feel and whose life has been an example of Christian fortitude to his family, his friends, his community, and his colleagues in the great state of North Carolina, and throughout this nation;

*Whereas*, **James Ray Jarrell**, was a graduate of Winston-Salem Teachers College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina (B.S.); earned his Masters of Science in Library Science degree from the Atlanta University School of Library Service, Atlanta, Georgia in 1970; served as a Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACRL Academic Library Intern, from 1974 through 1975 at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio; and pursued additional graduate work at the North Carolina A & T University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Emory University, and Indiana University;

*Whereas*, **James Ray Jarrell** joyfully, diligently, and enthusiastically served the **Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Inc.**, the largest, most powerful, and longest sustaining organization of African American librarians, library workers, publishers, and library trustees: as a member of the Executive Board during the formative years of the Caucus; and, as a long-time supporter of many significant **BCALA** activities; and *Whereas*, **James Ray Jarrell**, lent his gifts and wonderfully unforgettable spirit to the institutions and organizations he served, and to the entire library profession, his community, and the state of North Carolina as a tireless fighter and soldier for justice, equality, and human rights...;

*Whereas*, **James Ray Jarrell** further lent his gifts to the nation as a public and academic librarian: as Head of Technical Services Division at the F.D. Bluford Library, North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro; Evening Reference Librarian, Bennett College, 1971 to 1974; Branch Librarian, Benjamin Branch, Greensboro Public Library; and as a professional librarian in the following



institutions: University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Greensboro College; and Wake Forest University;

Whereas, **James Ray Jarrell** shared his leadership skills with the profession, through national, state and local professional associations, by planning and promoting library services for every segment of the population. As a more than thirty-five-year member and active leader in the **American Library Association (ALA)**, **Brother Jarrell** served on the National Library Week Committee and the Curriculum Materials Committee; he was also a member of the Issues and Concerns Committee, the Library Development Committee, and the Library Services Committee of the **Public Library Association (PLA)**; he provided leadership in the **Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS)**, and in the **Association for College and Research Libraries' (ACRL)** Education and Social Science Section where he served on the Curriculum Materials Committee 1985-87, 1987-88. As a member and leader in the **North Carolina Library Association**, **Brother Jarrell** chaired the Library Resources Committee, served as Secretary of the College/University Section, was a member of the Nominating Committee, and was Director of the Roundtable for Ethnic Minority Concerns; and, locally, **Brother Jarrell** served as President, Treasurer, and Chair of the Nominating Committee of the **Guilford Library Association**;

Whereas, **Brother Jarrell's** earthly journey was filled with love, generosity, and the legacy of an illustrious career of service and a job well done, we very well understand how a shining link in the name of our dearest brother, **Mr. James Ray Jarrell**, has most deservedly been added to the Friendship Chain of God's Kingdom; and

Whereas, the **Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc.**, the entire library profession, and communities throughout this nation have sustained a great loss in the home going of **Mr. James Ray Jarrell**; therefore, be it



*Resolved*, that we eulogize **Brother Jarrell's** memory by trying to bring into our own lives that excellence and professionalism, coupled with wittiness, "love for life, liberty, and humanity," joy, empathy, sustained commitment, vision, and purpose that made his life a worthy pattern for our emulation, and that we earnestly try to live as purposely, joyfully, and unselfishly as did **James Ray Jarrell**, and be it further

*Resolved*, that the **Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc.**, and the **American Library Association**, on behalf of its members, expresses its sincere sympathy to the family of **James Ray Jarrell**, that we place a copy of this resolution in the permanent archives of the **Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc.**, and the American Library Association, and that we also send a copy of this resolution to the members of **James Ray Jarrell's** family, the **Winston-Salem University Library University**, and the **Winston-Salem University Alumni Association**, in order to show to his loved ones the high esteem in which we hold his life and his memory.

"One by one the links are severed  
from the golden chain of life;  
One by one our order's forming  
In the Father's House above.  
Let our deeds be pure and noble  
May our lives be not in vain  
So that when the links are welded  
Complete again will be the chain."

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association  
Tuesday, January 29, 2019, in Seattle, WA

Mary W. Ghikas, Executive Director and  
Secretary of the ALA Council