Memorial Resolution to Dr. William Chandler “Dr. Bill” Robinson
October 25, 1939 - January 9, 2021

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson served faithfully on the faculty at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville’s School of Information Sciences Graduate Program from 1972 – 2008;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was a pioneer in Distance Education and learning: from the early days of flying to Memphis, TN from Knoxville on weekends to deliver face to face instruction to delivering instruction via synchronous technological methods;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was an early adopter of technology in librarianship and in his personal life;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson taught hundreds of librarians that still serve the profession throughout the country and world in a variety of roles in librarianship;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was a passionate teacher and advocate for librarians and librarianship and sparked that passion in others;

Whereas, the University of Tennessee -- School of Information Sciences has established the Dr. Bill Robinson Scholarship to help educate the next generation of librarians;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson served on countless Tennessee Library Association (TLA) boards and committees and won its highest honor, the TLA Honor Award;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was a lover of the book: contents, art, and artistry;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was a lifelong reader, learner, and scholar;

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson also was a passionate railroad enthusiast, artist/photographer, and lover of cats and dogs; and

Whereas, Dr. Bill Robinson was a beloved husband, father, mentor, teacher, and friend

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the significant contributions and leadership of Dr. William C. “Dr. Bill” Robinson in teaching, mentoring, and championing librarians and librarianship for four decades;
2. expresses its appreciation and gratitude for his service to the profession; and
3. sends condolences to all that were impacted by the passing of this great teacher, mentor, and friend.

Mover: Susan Jennings, TN Chapter Councilor (on behalf of all of his students)
Seconder: Aaron Dobbs, Small Round Tables Councilor
Jodie Gambill, Core Division Councilor