

Appendix C-1

Presbytery of St. Augustine Memorial Resolution Joseph Clay (Joe) Meux

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Clay Meux joined the Church Triumphant on November 21, 2022 at the age of 94 after a long, faithful life. Joe was born in Memphis on October 10, 1928. He graduated from Rhodes College, and was drafted by the Army into the Korean War. After his active-duty service, Joe would remain in the Army Reserve for 30 years, and ultimately retire as a colonel.

Joe attended Vanderbilt Law School and began a career in law in Memphis as a partner at Evans, Petrie, and Cobb. Before long, however, his call to ministry began to emerge, as it so often does, mysteriously yet earnestly. Faithfully following Christ's summons, Joe attended Louisville Theological Seminary and received his Masters of Divinity. He then became the pastor at Central Presbyterian Church in Henderson, Kentucky, where he met his wife, Elizabeth. Joe continued his education at Vanderbilt Divinity School and earned his Masters of Theology. He and Elizabeth married in 1966 before moving to Richmond, Virginia, where Joe received his Doctorate in Ministry at Union Theological Seminary.

In 1968, Joe and Elizabeth moved to Jacksonville to begin his ministry as pastor at Mandarin Presbyterian Church. He served at Mandarin Presbyterian for 26 years before retiring from the ministry. Joe spent his retirement years volunteering as a pro bono attorney at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and serving the Jacksonville community in numerous organizations, including the Mandarin Rotary Club. He was the State of Florida area coordinator for SHINE, and a member and leader of various boards including ElderSource and the City of Jacksonville Council of Elder Affairs, where he was an at-large member until his death. Joe loved to teach the Christian faith, and he taught Sunday School at Riverside Presbyterian Church for many years in retirement.

Joe Meux was a man of great integrity and strength. If he gave you his word, you knew he would keep it. He was an early advocate of ecumenical engagement, and marched with

African-American clergy during the civil rights movement. He would speak to what he felt was right, even if it was unpopular. Joe was a pastor in every sense of the word, and he is remembered as gentle, patient, understanding, loving. Compassion was one of the strongest marks of Joe's character, and his desire to serve others lay at the center of every challenge he undertook.

Joe loved his family with deep devotion, and his wife Elizabeth will tell you that he supported her in everything she did. Her sons, John and Clay, would say the same, and remember their father as faithful and loyal, always ready to listen, always proud of their accomplishments. Joe had the privilege of baptizing his twin grandchildren, Olivia and Davis, and could be found at their school's grandparents days year after year as they grew up.

Even as Joe grew older and declined physically, he held firmly to the promises of our faith that he had proclaimed throughout his life. He lived with the assurance that he was held in the strong hands of our Everlasting God, an assurance that maintained in him dignity, grace and peace, until the moment he entered God's eternal embrace.

Brian Lays, who authored this resolution, adds this personal note: As a young, new pastor at Riverside, I was fortunate to receive encouragement and support from Joe, and to witness the faith with which he lived out his final days. Please join me in giving thanks for a good and faithful life, as we look forward to glad reunion with Joe at the great banquet feast which is in heaven. Thanks be to God. Amen.