

A Resolution to Honor Alaskan Pioneer Kathleen “Mike” Dalton

Whereas, Mike arrived in Alaska prior to Statehood in 1949, with a degree in English and a sense of adventure. Shortly after, she met and married Jim Dalton. The couple lived and worked in Barrow until moving to Fairbanks after the birth of their children.

Whereas, Mike became intertwined with Alaska’s history, recording the stories and photos of events around the state. She was the memory keeper and had a seemingly unlimited knowledge of Alaska history. She kept track of it all.

Whereas, in 1962 Mike was asked to help with republican candidates. She became a member of the Fairbanks Republican women and a staunch republican from then on. She was instrumental in raising funds and a force of nature in the Republican Party. She loved politics.

Whereas, “She won a seat on the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly when it was formed in 1964. She went on to manage the state of Alaska’s office in Washington, D.C., during Gov. Jay Hammond’s administration, worked as Interior Alaska field office manager for U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens from 1971-78 and also worked for Sen. Jack Coghill during his tenure in the Alaska Legislature.”

Whereas, Mike was a trailblazer, a leader and a pioneer. She was an inspiration and mentor to many. Many candidates heeded her advice or faced her wrath upon ignoring her suggestions. In 2013 she was honored as both Republican Women of the Year and Republican of the Year.

Whereas, Mike spent time volunteering for candidates, she also volunteered at the Veterans Administration hospital and was active in Pioneers of Alaska. She loved being productive.

Therefore, be it resolved: that we all honor this amazing pioneer woman with our continued volunteerism to the State of Alaska. And remember to record and photograph the history around us.

Be it further resolved: that the Republican Party of Alaska offer their condolences to Mike’s children George and Libby and all of her friends.

Glenn Clary, Chairman Alaska Republican Party