



In Memory of

Julia Dent Grant

January 26, 2026

WHEREAS, today, on the bicentennial of her birth, we honor the life and legacy of Julia Dent Grant, a first lady, goodwill ambassador, and longtime resident of our nation's capital; and

WHEREAS, born Julia Boggs Dent in Missouri, Mrs. Grant married Ulysses S. Grant more than 20 years before his election as the 18th U.S. president; and

WHEREAS, as first lady, Mrs. Grant was a steady source of support to her husband and his officers during the Civil War, joining him on the front lines and acting as a social and diplomatic asset, all while managing household affairs and caring for their four children; and

WHEREAS, unlike many previous first ladies who stayed out of the spotlight, Mrs. Grant met with Cabinet members, U.S. Senators, Supreme Court justices, and guests from the North and the South — acting as a bridge between the sides during and after the war; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Grant led an extensive refurbishment of the White House that made its interior one of the most celebrated of the time, and spent her final years in a Massachusetts Avenue residence, acting as an elder stateswoman of Washington and writing her memoirs; and

WHEREAS, Julia Dent Grant was a trailblazing first lady who reimagined the office, elevating it into a beacon of culture, unity, and enduring national dignity:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim January 26, 2026, as a day of remembrance for “FIRST LADY JULIA DENT GRANT.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Muriel Bowser".

Muriel Bowser
Mayor, Washington, DC

