

1 SJR5  
2 173034-2  
3 By Senator Orr  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 02-FEB-16

1 SJR5

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4 ENROLLED, SJR5,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. JACK ALLEN.

6  
7 WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we receive  
8 news of the death of Mr. Jack Allen of Decatur, Alabama, on  
9 December 25, 2015, at the age of 84 years; and

10 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Allen leaves a void in  
11 the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and the  
12 entire community, where he was well-known and highly regarded;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Allen was born June 11, 1931, in  
15 Austinville, Alabama, to William O. and Inez Sparkman Allen;  
16 he was a 1949 graduate of Austinville High School, where he  
17 played basketball and earned a scholarship to the University  
18 of North Alabama, formerly Florence State Teachers College;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, his passion for basketball led him to  
21 become an Alabama High School Athletic Association Basketball  
22 Official, still serving as an official observer until the time  
23 of his passing; in addition he served his beloved country in  
24 the United States 32nd Infantry Regiment in Korea, and after  
25 fulfilling his military service he dedicated 20 years of his

1 life to the City of Decatur's youth as a Dixie Youth Baseball  
2 Coach, earning him a place in the 1992 Morgan County Sports  
3 Hall of Fame; and

4 WHEREAS, his service to his community continued  
5 when, in 1976, he was elected to a seat on the Decatur City  
6 Council, a position he was elected to for six consecutive  
7 four-year terms, totalling 24 years; one of the highest honors  
8 bestowed upon him was the unexpected naming of The Jack Allen  
9 Recreation and Soccer Complex; and

10 WHEREAS, his grandfather, Asbury Sparkman, was the  
11 City Clerk of Austinville, from whom he learned at a young age  
12 the importance of service to his community; he would attend  
13 church with his grandfather at Austinville Methodist Church,  
14 where the Christian principles instilled in him there were  
15 carried with him throughout the rest of his life; his favorite  
16 scripture was Philippians 4:13, and he would say that he would  
17 do anything that was asked of him because he believed the  
18 responsibility was a calling of God, often saying "I'll give  
19 it my best shot"; during his retirement, he began another  
20 career in the insurance business and enjoyed cleaning up his  
21 motor home to travel to Alabama football games; and

22 WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his parents,  
23 two brothers, William O. Allen, Jr., and Tommy Allen, two  
24 sisters, Mary Allen Davis and Irene Allen Hayes; and

1           WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of 61  
2 years, Betty Allen; his son, Stuart (Roslyn) Allen; his  
3 daughter, Beth Allen; his grandsons, Parker Allen and Hunter  
4 Allen; one sister, Becky McIntyre; and several nieces,  
5 nephews, and cousins; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Allen was a valued member of the  
7 community; although his presence will be missed, his memory  
8 will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those who were  
9 fortunate to know him; now therefore,

10           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Jack Allen is  
12 recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered in  
13 highest tribute to his life and with heartfelt sympathy to his  
14 family, whose grief is shared by many.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR5  
Senate 02-FEB-16  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 09-FEB-16

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By: Senator Orr