

House Resolution 1511

By: Representatives Erwin of the 28th and Powell of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Roy Edward Gaines; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Roy Edward Gaines on May 17, 2020; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Roy Edward Gaines was born on April 14, 1926, in Hartwell, Georgia, a
5 beloved son of Samuel Crayton and Dessie Eugenia Cash Gaines; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
7 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans as part of the FM
8 Division aboard the USS *New York*; and
- 9 WHEREAS, an active member of the community, Roy served on the local Salvation Army
10 Advisory Board, the Advisory Board of Emmanuel College, and the Toccoa/Stephens
11 County Chamber of Commerce; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he served as a member of the Toccoa City Commission for 9 years and as
13 mayor in 1971, 1974, and 1977; during his time in office, he led the delegation that resulted
14 in Toccoa earning the title of All American City in 1976; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Roy received the W. Herschel Lovett Foundation State Award for Meritorious
16 Public Service, the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America, and the
17 Life Time Achievement Award from the Toccoa/Stephens County Chamber of Commerce
18 for his service; and
- 19 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Roy was an active member of Toccoa First
20 United Methodist Church; and

21 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Evelyn, and was blessed with
22 two remarkable children, Connie and Stuart; two wonderful grandchildren, Crayton and
23 Vanessa; and three outstanding great-grandchildren, Owen, Bella, and Josie; and

24 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
25 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
26 family and friends were admired by others; and

27 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
28 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
29 made this world a better place in which to live; and

30 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Roy will long be remembered for his love
31 of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of
32 knowing him.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Roy Edward Gaines and
35 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 family of Roy Edward Gaines.