

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY REPRESENTATIVES EMERSON, BEAULLIEU, BISHOP, BOURRIAQUE, COUSSAN, DEVILLIER, GOUDEAU, HUGHES, HUVAL, MIGUEZ, PIERRE, STEFANSKI, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, CORTEZ, DUPLESSIS, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HENRY, HEWITT, JACKSON, LAMBERT, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, AND TARVER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Donald Gifford "Don" Briggs and to recognize his outstanding achievements.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on April 3, 2023, of Donald Gifford "Don" Briggs; and

WHEREAS, Don was born on December 30, 1940, in Miami, Florida, to Anna Mae and Willis Gifford Briggs, and he lived in Lafayette, Louisiana, for more than sixty years; and

WHEREAS, Don was a renaissance man who enjoyed a successful high school football career that continued at Florida State University; he also had a brief but successful modeling career that saw him featured in several national publications; and

WHEREAS, Don began his decades-long career in the oil and gas industry as a roustabout for Owen Drilling Company working from 6:00 PM until midnight, seven days a week; he worked his way up to safety director, and by the 1970s, he owned Aztec Companies; and

WHEREAS, Don founded Louisiana Independent Oil and Gas Association, now known as Louisiana Oil and Gas Association (LOGA), in 1992; the initial group of twelve founding members has grown into an association that represents more than twelve hundred members; and

WHEREAS, Don was the face and voice of the oil and gas industry, as president of LOGA, for more than twenty-five years; he was a fierce advocate for the industry and worked tirelessly to educate public and government officials about how critical the industry is to Louisiana and its economy; and

WHEREAS, Don was named "LAGCOE Looey" in 2017 and received the Meritorious Service Award from the Professional Landmen's Association of New Orleans; he was a titan of the oil and gas industry and a Louisiana legend whose legacy of building and safeguarding oil and gas operations in the state cannot be overstated nor forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Don was a devoted father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and caring friend to many; his hobbies included fishing in the Florida Keys, working in his vegetable garden, photography, duck hunting, and traveling; and

WHEREAS, Don was a family man, cherishing years of memories with his children and grandchildren; however, the center of his life was his wife of twenty-five years, Nanette Benoit "Nan" Briggs; throughout their marriage, they enjoyed biking, dining out, dancing, and trips with friends and family to the mountains in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Don was a culinary enthusiast and his lasting legacy of a "Don Briggs Special" can be found at restaurants across Louisiana, from Mansurs on the Boulevard in Baton Rouge to La Fonda in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, Don cemented his legacy in 2022 when he became a published author, sharing the story of his life, faith, and trials in *Isn't it Beautiful: The Story of Don Briggs*; and

WHEREAS, Don was also a devout Catholic who served many years through his Bird Feeder Ministry and as a Eucharistic minister at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital and various local nursing home; and

WHEREAS, Donald Gifford Briggs truly loved serving others; he leaves to cherish his memory his children, Tammy Milam, and her husband Mark, Brett Briggs, Andon Briggs, and his wife Beth, and Gifford Briggs, and his wife Jackie; grandchildren, Colby Briggs, Devin Briggs, and his wife Kati, Sara Noel, and her husband Taylor, Summer Simm, and her husband Alex, Parker Briggs, Gentry Briggs, Ash Briggs, Chloe Briggs, and Max Briggs; great-grandchildren, Jesse Briggs, Marci Briggs, Sailor Noel, Piper Ann Noel, and

Alden Simm; sister, Deanna O'Brien; and brother, Stephen Briggs, and his wife Joan; Don will be deeply missed but certainly never forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies on the death of Donald Gifford "Don" Briggs; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the oil and gas industry; does hereby extend true appreciation for his enduring legacy; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE