

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ADLEY, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Gerald Ray "Gerry" Lane and recognize his lifetime achievements.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sadness that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the death of Gerald Ray "Gerry" Lane, on May 3, 2013, at the age of eighty-two; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting to recognize and record for posterity the unique and wonderful legacy of Gerry Lane; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane was born in Red Mound, Oklahoma, on February 15, 1931, to Burl David and Bonnie Martindale Lane; and

WHEREAS, he battled cancer for over thirty years, living life on his terms through sheer determination to keep going; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane was in the automotive business for more than sixty years, a mega dealer for more than fifty-five years, and the president of the Super Chevy Dealer Group for twenty-three years; and

WHEREAS, he received hundreds of professional awards in his career, including the prestigious Time Magazine Dealer of the Year, a National Lifetime Achievement Award from GMAC, District Dealer of the year (won four times), Better Business Bureau's Douglas Manship Sr. Torch Award for professional ethics, Business Report's Executive of the Year, Sales & Marketing Executives' Marketer of the Year, and the Durwood Gully Sales & Marketing Excellence Award; and

WHEREAS, for all his philanthropic and community endeavors, Gerry Lane received numerous honors including the Golden Deeds Award, presented annually by *The Advocate* and the InterCivic Council of Baton Rouge; the Association of Fundraising Professionals Philanthropist of the Year Award; and the Advertising Federation of Greater Baton Rouge's E.A. "Pete" Goldsby Award; and

WHEREAS, he was also honored with a bronze plaque in the Gerry Lane Championship Plaza at Alex Box Stadium at LSU; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane was a man who was never without a smile who believed and taught his employees that the key to selling cars was honesty and treating people right and who believed that "the more you gave the more you got in return"; and

WHEREAS, his philanthropic activities were legendary as on any given Saturday, children playing YMCA sports wearing T-shirts with the Gerry Lane Enterprises logo on the back can be spotted at local parks and twice a year, TV and radio spots, and newspaper ads appear to promote the Angola Prison Rodeo, just two of the causes he supported and was passionate about; and

WHEREAS, together with wife Faye, daughter Sandra and son Eric, in addition to underwriting the Y's youth sports programs and sponsoring the Angola Prison Rodeo, the Lane family has given more than \$30 million to various community causes such as the March of Dimes, raised thousands for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Arc of Baton Rouge and written checks benefitting LSU's Rural Life Museum and the Krewe of Apollo's Mardi Gras Ball benefitting its HIV/AIDS Crisis Fund; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane's self-stated ultimate goal was, "I wanted to try to the best of my ability to leave a history of what it takes to be a success."; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Lloyd and Bud, his sister Velma Henderson and son Mark; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane is survived by his wife of fifty-five years, Faye Rogan Lane; sons, David and wife Cindy; Eric and wife Lisa, and daughter Sandra; one brother, Eldon Lane and wife Eulonda; and grandchildren Tyler, Ashton, Will, Jordan, Jillian, Jacqueline and Jackson Lane; and

WHEREAS, Gerry Lane was a man whose generosity, smile, and loving heart has

left an indelible mark on the many people whose lives he touched and leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of tenacity, determination, integrity, intellect, and professionalism, and though his death has created a tremendous void in his community, he will forever remain an inspiration in the minds and hearts of all who knew him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Gerald Ray "Gerry" Lane, does hereby recognize his outstanding achievements and singular contributions to the betterment of his community and of the state of Louisiana, does hereby record for posterity his extraordinary gifts and profound talent, his outstanding abilities, and his generosity and kindness, does hereby express appreciation for his enduring legacy that will continue as a source of pride and honor for his family and friends, his community, and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby express the deep regret of the entire state upon the loss of this extraordinary gentleman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Gerald Ray "Gerry" Lane.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES