

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATORS WALSWORTH, RISER AND THOMPSON AND REPRESENTATIVES
CHANEY, CROMER, HOFFMANN AND JAY MORRIS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of James Donald "Don" Halsell.

WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that the citizens and the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of James Donald "Don" Halsell, on December 5, 2015; and

WHEREAS, James Donald "Don" Halsell was born on June 17, 1928, to John Clinton and Lisa Ann Marina Owens Halsell, who were early settlers in the White's Ferry community of West Monroe; and

WHEREAS, Don attended Crosley and Millsaps elementary schools and graduated from Ouachita Parish High School in 1945, and from Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1949 with a degree in business; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, he moved to Dallas for two years to work for Blue Cross Insurance, but with encouragement from friends, he returned home to start a four-decade long career in purchasing, retiring as the purchasing manager at the Brown Paper Mill (now Graphic Packaging International) in 1994; and

WHEREAS, as a teenager he joined Fair Park Baptist Church soon after its founding where he remained a member serving on numerous committees throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Don Halsell was the kind of citizen who represents all that is good about Louisiana, a man of wisdom who used his many talents, integrity, and passion for his community, parish, and state to change Louisiana and its citizens for the better; and

WHEREAS, his hobbies always became a "Great Family Adventure" revolving around his lifelong love of traveling, boating and water sports, which led to him earning his captain's license and owning, building, and rebuilding many vessels; and

WHEREAS, his love of his family was of the utmost importance in his life, and he was a caring and devoted husband and best friend to the love of his life, his wife of sixty-one years, Jean Bower Halsell; he was a cherished father to his two sons, Jim and Bob; he taught Jim to fly and was thrilled when he went on to follow a career as a United States Air Force pilot and then a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut; he encouraged Bob to enter medicine and watched him become an esteemed interventional radiologist with St. Francis Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, James Donald "Don" Halsell was a man of great strength and intellect, a caring individual who has left his mark on his community and the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon men like James Donald "Don" Halsell.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of James Donald "Don" Halsell.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby celebrate his extraordinary life and commend the rich legacy that James Donald "Don" Halsell leaves to benefit future generations and acknowledge a life well spent in the service of his community, his state, his country, and his God.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his wife, Jean Bower Halsell.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES