

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the death of Paul Marion Toce Sr.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
3 death of Paul Marion Toce Sr., a self-made man, who lived an extraordinary life,  
4 achieving great success as founder and chief geologist for Toce Oil Co., now Toce  
5 Energy.

6 WHEREAS, it is with a deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of  
7 Louisiana and the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Paul  
8 Marion Toce Sr. on Monday, November 27, 2017, at the age of eighty-six; and

9 WHEREAS, Paul began as a football standout at the old Lafayette High, earning a  
10 scholarship to play receiver on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) football team,  
11 then known as South Louisiana Institute (SLI), sustaining a career-ending knee injury during  
12 his freshman season, but he always cherished the university for honoring his four-year  
13 scholarship, even when he was unable to play football; and

14 WHEREAS, Paul grew up poor, without a father, and would never have earned a  
15 college degree in geology without the uncommon loyalty bestowed upon him by the  
16 university, which he never forgot; and

17 WHEREAS, Paul joined the Air Force ROTC after his football injury, and quickly  
18 became the commanding lieutenant; and

1           WHEREAS, it was then that he stumbled upon the greatest blessing he would ever  
2 receive, winning the hand of Patricia Lucille "Patty Lou" Robicheaux in marriage; and

3           WHEREAS, upon graduation, Paul fulfilled his commitment to his state, and his  
4 country in the United States Air Force, serving in the European Theatre with Patty Lou by  
5 his side; he was honorably discharged, having earned the rank of First Lieutenant; and

6           WHEREAS, once back from Europe, Paul earned his first job in the oilfield at Royal  
7 Dutch Shell, and after working several years, he left Shell and founded Toce Oil Co. where  
8 his knack for finding oil vaulted him into a lifestyle about which he could have only dreamed  
9 of after growing up with no father and a working mother; and

10           WHEREAS, Paul was an exemplary and highly admired citizen of Louisiana who  
11 worked tirelessly on a multitude of business, civic, political, and religious causes throughout  
12 his life; and

13           WHEREAS, Paul was a loving and devoted husband to the love of his life for  
14 sixty-two glorious years, a dedicated father to his three sons, Dr. Paul M. Toce Jr., Victor  
15 Albert Toce, Andre' Francis Toce, and his "Baby Girl", Patty Lou Toce Marshall; a cherished  
16 grandfather of sixteen grandchildren; and five treasured great-grandchildren, earning him  
17 the beloved title of "Pop T", and he was a loving relative and friend whose love for his  
18 family and friends was of the utmost importance in his life; and

19           WHEREAS, the Toce family was able to travel the world together from the dove  
20 hunting fields of South America, the double black diamond ski slopes of Aspen, and back  
21 bowls of Vail, to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite National Park, and Disney Resorts in  
22 California and Florida, to countless days with the family water skiing and hang gliding at  
23 False River, to the Vatican, ancient Roman ruins, China, and Pompeii, the family enjoyed  
24 experiences beyond compare, which will be cherished in their memories forever; and

25           WHEREAS, Paul and Patty were also fortunate enough to watch all four of their  
26 children graduate from college (and able to pay for it all), with Paul Jr. becoming a local  
27 doctor, Victor becoming the geologist who would take over Paul's oil and gas exploration  
28 legacy, Andre' becoming a successful trial attorney, and Patty creating a career in the  
29 hospitality industry, currently holding a position on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
30 campus; and

