

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 7

By: Crain

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution honoring the life and career of State
8 Senator Jerry Smith; mourning his loss; and directing
9 distribution.

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11 WHEREAS, Jerry Smith was born on December 6, 1943, in Muskogee,
12 Oklahoma, to Hollis C. Smith and Eulema M. (Hall) Dougherty. He was
13 married to Sally (Howe) Smith, Tulsa County Court Clerk. The couple
14 has a son, Tucker. Smith was a graduate of Oklahoma State
15 University and the University of Tulsa School of Law; and

16 WHEREAS, Jerry Smith was first elected to the District 39 seat
17 in the Oklahoma State Senate in 1980, serving 24 years in the upper
18 chamber until he was term-limited in 2004. He previously served in
19 the House of Representatives. During his time in the Legislature,
20 he served in many leadership positions, including Minority Leader in
21 1987 and 1988. Although he was a member of the minority party,
22 during his last term he served as chair of the Senate Judiciary
23 Committee, only the second member of the minority party to do so;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, in Jerry Smith's thirty-two years of service as a
2 legislator, his work was focused on the law, from the writing of the
3 law to the administration of the law (particularly by the district
4 court clerks) to the adjudication of the law. His respect for and
5 protection of our legal system served all Oklahomans well and will
6 continue to do so in the future; and

7 WHEREAS, throughout his legislative career, Jerry Smith earned
8 the respect of members on both sides of the aisle, as well as that
9 of his constituents and members of the Capitol press corps. The
10 citizens of District 39 and of the entire state were well served by
11 his hard work and dedication on their behalf; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Jerry Smith was a giant of the Oklahoma State
13 Senate who loved his family, the State of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma
14 State Senate; and

15 WHEREAS, Jerry Smith passed from this life on Friday, January
16 30, 2015, at the age of 71. Smith was preceded in death by his
17 parents and is survived by his wife, Sally, and son, Tucker.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
19 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

20 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the life and service of
21 Senator Jerry Smith and hails his contributions to the State of
22 Oklahoma.

23 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate joins his family, friends, and
24 former constituents in mourning the loss of Senator Jerry Smith.

1 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Senator Jerry
2 Smith's wife, Sally Smith.

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