

HOUSE COMMEMORATION NO. 1024

Introduced by: Representative Duvall and Senator Monroe

A LEGISLATIVE COMMEMORATION, Celebrating and honoring the life and service of Don Rounds.

WHEREAS, the state of South Dakota lost a true gentleman and unsung leader with the passing of Don Rounds on February 24, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Don was born in Iroquois on August 1, 1927, to Marion and Mary Rounds, graduated from Cavour High School in 1945, and then attended Catholic Seminary at Trinity Heights College and St. Ambrose Seminarian College in Iowa for two years before deciding to return to Cavour to teach and coach; and

WHEREAS, he joined the South Dakota National Guard in 1948 and was called to active duty during the Korean War before retiring with the rank of Major in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Don married Joyce Reinartz in May 1953 and later raised a family of ten sons and one daughter; and

WHEREAS, Governor Joe Foss hired Don to implement South Dakota's first state driver's licensing program in 1957 which necessitated a move to Pierre which would become his home for the next 61 years; and

WHEREAS, Don served in a variety of positions for the next several decades including with the South Dakota State Office of Highway Safety, the South Dakota Rural Electric Association and finally, the South Dakota Petroleum Council, where he worked for nearly 20 years before retiring in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Don consistently gave back to his community and state in a variety of ways including as a high school basketball and football official, a board member for the St. Joseph's



Catholic School Home and School Association, a CCD instructor, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and serving Pierre Little League Baseball, Pierre Exchange Club, Pierre Elks Lodge, Pierre Rawlins Library Board, South Dakota Water Management Board, Countryside Hospice, and as Sergeant at Arms to the South Dakota Senate; and

WHEREAS, he took great joy and pride in the successes of his children including Governor and Senator Mike Rounds, and state Representative Tim Rounds, along with his 36 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Don's life has had a lasting and notable impact on people throughout the community of Pierre, the state of South Dakota, and across the United States and beyond:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT COMMEMORATED, by the Ninety-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the Legislature honors, commends, and remembers Don Rounds for his service to the people of South Dakota.