

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 33

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Richard Douglas Smith of Fentress County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Richard Douglas Smith; and

WHEREAS, a prominent physician known to his patients as "Dr. Doug," Dr. Smith was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the son of Earl and Auda Smith, Doug Smith was born in Fentress County on July 20, 1951, and he grew up working on the family farm; his love of hard work and his family's belief in higher education led him to pursue a career in medicine; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Tennessee School of Medicine, Dr. Smith returned to Jamestown and opened his practice at the age of twenty-nine; throughout his career, he was a true visionary in the field of medicine, who always sought to be on the cutting edge of medical research to learn new ways of diagnosing and treating his patients; and

WHEREAS, he became board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, a feat few accomplish after being a physician for twenty-five years, and he was recertified ten years later; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith and his wife purchased their first tract of land in 1991, which is now the Sunset Ridge Cattle Co., known for its excellent Angus cattle; he used the latest genetics in his farming practices to improve his cattle; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Doug Smith enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Gaye Smith, and he was the proud father of Missy Adkins, Cory Smith, B.J. York, and Adam York and the devoted grandfather of Kyla, Lauryn, Tanner, Little Kyla, Millie, Jack, and Tinley; and

WHEREAS, he is lovingly remembered by his brother, Rodney Smith; his sister, Joan Maney; and a host of patients and friends; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Doug Smith leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Richard Douglas Smith, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Smith.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.