

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 97

By Hill T

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Olan Bentley of Shady Valley.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Olan Bentley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bentley 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, Olan Bentley was born on January 10, 1950, to Clyde and Georgia Barry Bentley; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-two years, Mr. Bentley served with acumen and alacrity at Burlington Industries, where he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; he also served on the Board of Directors for Skyline Corporation for eight years; and

WHEREAS, he was very involved in his community, serving many years as chairman of the Cranberry Festival Committee and the Johnson County Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bentley was an active and devout member of Shady Valley Church of Christ, where he taught Bible class, sang, and filled in as speaker whenever he was needed; and

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

WHEREAS, Olan Bentley is survived by his loving wife of forty-three years, Diane Watson Bentley; his children, Gwen Williams, Beth Lewis, and Kelly Bentley; and his grandchildren, Parker Lewis, Payton Lewis, Paxton Lewis, Sofia Bentley, Aria Bentley, and Bentley Williams; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his mother-in-law, Betty Watson; his sister-in-law, Lonita Bentley; his nieces, April Bentley and Kristy Scott; his great-nephews, Sam Scott and Caleb Scott; his brothers-in-law, Clifford Watson, Chris Watson, and Benji Watson; his sister-in-law, Janet Townsend; and a host of special cousins, nieces, and nephews; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Harry Bentley; and his father-in-law, Herman Watson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bentley 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 Olan Bentley, 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 Mr. Bentley.

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