

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 329

By Whitson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Harold Johnson Plumley of Franklin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Harold Johnson Plumley; and

WHEREAS, Harold Plumley 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, born in Convoy, Ohio, on February 7, 1927, Mr. Plumley was the eldest son of George Dewey Plumley and Esther Johnson Plumley; he grew up on an Indiana tenant farm during the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mr. Plumley joined the United States Army Air Force, and, upon his honorable discharge in 1947, he was awarded the World War II Victory Medal and the Army Air Force Certificate of Achievement; he then completed two years of college at the International Business College in Fort Wayne, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plumley began his career as an accounting clerk with Freuhauf Trailer in Fort Wayne, Indiana, before serving as Chief Financial Officer of American Brattice Cloth; in 1962, after obtaining admission as a Certified Public Accountant, he became partner in a public accounting firm in Muncie, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, an entrepreneur at heart, in 1967, Harold Plumley purchased a small manufacturing business in Paris, which employed thirty-five people with annual sales of \$600,000; he renamed the business Plumley Companies, and by the time he sold the company in 1995, the business had grown to 1,200 employees with annual sales exceeding \$100 million; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plumley then established a cattle operation in Ocala, Florida, and acquired a neighboring thoroughbred racing stable, which he expanded and grew into a respected operation, breeding, training, and racing over 500 thoroughbred horses over the next fifteen years, including the horse Dubai Majesty, which was recognized with the coveted Eclipse Award; and

WHEREAS, he was a founding investor in the Community Bank of Florida, and he served over a decade on its Board of Directors; the bank now serves a broad regional market with assets exceeding \$750 million; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plumley served as chairman of the Tennessee Association of Business, president of the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association, and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Indiana Association of CPAs, and the Board of Directors for the National Association of Manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, a noted philanthropist, Harold Plumley was instrumental in establishing a cultural legacy center in Paris, upgrading the quality of patient health services at Marion County Hospital in Ocala, Florida, and installing a new organ carillon at the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the American Legion, the Elks Lodge #286, and Masonic Lodge #108; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Plumley was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin, which he served faithfully for a number of years; and

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Plumley enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of sixty-nine years, Opal A. Plumley; he was the proud father of Michael Plumley, Stephen Plumley, Richard Plumley, and William Plumley and the treasured grandfather of twelve grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He is lovingly remembered by his brothers, Dean Plumley and Chalmer Plumley, and his sister, Eva Mae Rambo; and

WHEREAS, Harold Plumley 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 Harold Johnson Plumley, 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. Plumley.

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