

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 710

By Travis

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Thomas Victor Swafford of Bledsoe County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Thomas Victor Swafford; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swafford 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, Mr. Swafford graduated from Bledsoe County High School in 1953; five years later, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swafford served with acumen and alacrity as a Lt. J.G. in the United States Navy Civil Engineering Corps from 1959-1962, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; during his time serving his country, he oversaw the design and construction of a helicopter pad and bomb shelter for the White House, as well as an early warning radar station in Thule, Greenland; and

WHEREAS, in his private career, he served as Vice President in charge of construction and engineering at Fairfield Glade in Crossville, Tennessee, from 1972-1991, where he oversaw the design and construction of all roads, dams, lakes, golf courses, and the layout of the residential areas; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from Fairfield Glade, Mr. Swafford spent his time researching and authoring several books about the history of Bledsoe County; and

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Swafford enjoyed the loving companionship of Helen Swafford for fifty-five years and was the proud parent of his children Gregory, Phillip (Crystal), and Lynne Emiren (David), as well as the proud grandparent of Phillip Christian, Nicholas Ryan, and Parker Thomas Swafford, and Anthony Greg and Thomas Alexander Emiren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Swafford was preceded in death by his son, Gregory; his brother, Phillip W. Swafford; and his parents, Hub and Ruth Swafford; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, remaining children, and grandchildren, Mr. Swafford is also survived by his brothers, Kendall, Steven (Elvie), David, and Ronny Swafford; his sister, Sue (Sammy) Humble; several nieces and nephews; special caregivers, Bertha Ford, Shelia Clark, and Janet Holland; and his faithful companion, Molly; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Swafford 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 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 EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Thomas Victor Swafford, 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. Swafford.

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