

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 893

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Clayton T. Davenport of Bristol.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Clayton T. Davenport; and

WHEREAS, Clayton Davenport 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 May 6, 1921, to Clyde T. Davenport and Lula Flick Davenport, Clayton Davenport was a lifelong resident of Bristol; and

WHEREAS, Valedictorian of his graduating class at Holston Valley High School, Mr. Davenport worked for the Bristol Herald Courier before nobly serving his country in the United States Army in Europe during World War II; and

WHEREAS, discharged as a Staff Sergeant at the end of the war, Mr. Davenport enrolled at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he completed his undergraduate education and earned his law degree in 1949, having served as editor of the law review and been designated Order of the Coif; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport returned to Bristol to open his own law office; in 1956, he left the practice of law and accepted a position at the First National Bank of Sullivan County, where he established its Trust Department and served with acumen and alacrity as Vice President and Trust Officer, in which positions he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University, Mr. Davenport served on the bank's Board of Directors for a number of years prior to retiring as Executive Vice President in 1983; and

WHEREAS, greatly involved in his community, Mr. Davenport was a member of many worthy organizations, including the Bristol TN/VA Rotary Club, for which he was a moving force in its Rotary Student Loan program, the Sullivan County Industrial Development Board, the Board of King College, and the Board of Bristol Memorial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport was an active and devout member of the Windsor Avenue Presbyterian Church, which he served faithfully for many years as Deacon and Elder and for which he taught the men's Bible class for thirty-five years; and

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Mary Ann S. Davenport, and was the proud father of his children and their spouses, Sara Davenport Clariday and her husband, David; Richard A. Davenport and his wife, Ginger; and C. Thomas Davenport, Jr., and his wife, Rebecca; and is further survived by six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Kenneth C. Davenport; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davenport 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 SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Clayton T. Davenport, 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. Davenport.

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