

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 984

By Garrett

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Major General William Doyle Tidwell, Jr., of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Major General William Doyle Tidwell, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, William Tidwell, Jr., 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 on June 4, 1925, Mr. Tidwell was the third child and first son of Ella Mai and Doyle Tidwell, Sr.; he grew up in Nashville and later attended Goodlettsville High School, where he met his future wife, Elizabeth Ann Russell; and

WHEREAS, after his graduation, Mr. Tidwell was drafted into the United States Army and stationed at Officer Candidate School Class 398-45 in Fort McClellan, Alabama, for basic training; he was commissioned an Infantry Officer upon graduation from Officer Candidate School on January 26, 1945, and deployed to his first assignment in the Philippine Islands as Executive Officer, Company F, 163rd Infantry, South Pacific; and

WHEREAS, his subsequent duty assignments included Commander, Company H, 35th Infantry, Japan; Control Group, Indianapolis, Indiana; Commander, Company L, 87th Division, Nashville, Tennessee; Assistant Post Headquarters Commandant, Fort McClellan, Alabama; Commander, Heavy Weapons Company, 109th Infantry, Germany; Control Group, St. Louis, Missouri; Adjutant, HHC, 345th Infantry Regiment, Nashville, Tennessee; S-1, 1st Brigade, 345th Infantry, Nashville, Tennessee; Executive Officer, 1st Brigade, 345th Infantry, Nashville, Tennessee; Dep. Commander, 1st Brigade, 345th Infantry, Nashville, Tennessee; Executive Officer, 3rd Brigade, 81st Infantry Division, Nashville, Tennessee; Executive Officer, 303rd TC Gp

(MT), Nashville, Tennessee; Camp Commander, 401st MP Camp (PW), Nashville, Tennessee; Acting Commander, 290th MP Brigade (PW), Nashville, Tennessee; Commander, 290th MP Brigade, (PW), Nashville, Tennessee; USAR Control Group-Standby, St. Louis, Missouri; Dep. Commander, 81st ARCOM, Atlanta, Georgia; and Commander, 412th Engineer Command, Vicksburg, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, his active-duty obligations ended, and he returned home, marrying Ann Russell in April 1947; the two built a home together, and their family quickly expanded, eventually growing to include ten grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tidwell's military career ended in 1983 with his retirement as a major general, after more than forty years in both active and reserve Army commands; and

WHEREAS, his military awards and decorations included a Bronze Star and an Army Commendation Medal, the latter of which is awarded for heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tidwell was an irreplaceable member of his community, always aiming to serve others; he was an essential part of the founding and growth of Goodpasture Christian School and remained a member of the board of directors for over forty years, along with building and managing a supermarket business that benefited countless communities for over seventy years; and

WHEREAS, among his family and friends, Mr. Tidwell was known as a spirited, funny, and loving individual and as an active and devout member of Rivergate Church of Christ throughout his life; and

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

WHEREAS, William Tidwell, Jr., 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 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 THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Major General William Doyle Tidwell, Jr., 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. Tidwell.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.