

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Gary Drinkard of Spring City.

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Drinkard 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 and raised in Fulton, Alabama, Gary Drinkard was the son of Vidma and Gertrude Drinkard; he graduated from Clarke County High School in Grove Hill, Alabama, and attended the University of Virginia, where he completed his Bachelor of Science degree and Ph.D. in Chemistry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drinkard worked for the Shell Oil Company in Houston, Texas, for twenty-seven years; following his retirement, he moved to Spring City, where he enjoyed his retirement years sitting on his porch gazing at his magnificent view of Watts Bar Lake; and

WHEREAS, former president of the Harris County Texas Historical Society, Gary Drinkard enjoyed studying history, specifically, Texas history; after he moved to Tennessee, he became an active member of the Rhea County Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the Republican Party, Mr. Drinkard loved his cats and enjoyed reading, spending time with his friends, playing bridge, and being outdoors; and

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Drinkard enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-two years, Mary Drinkard, and was the proud father of David (Betsy) Drinkard and Robert (Anissa Samilpa) Drinkard; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife and children, Mr. Drinkard is survived by his grandsons, Grayson, Cooper, Liam, and Garrett, and his nieces, Karen Peacock and Brenda Peacock Allen; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Ernestine Drinkard Peacock; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drinkard 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Gary Drinkard, 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. Drinkard.

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.