

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 43

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Robert Joseph "Bob" Griffin of Ten Mile.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Robert Joseph "Bob" Griffin of Ten Mile; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying the motto of his alma mater, "Deeds Not Words," Bob Griffin dedicated his life to service of others over self; he was a consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the youngest of three children, Mr. Griffin was born in Salem, Massachusetts, on March 27, 1937, to John and Alice Griffin; he developed a love for learning while a student at St. John Preparatory School and went on to become a proud graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, Bob Griffin moved to Ten Mile and established Waterford Farm, realizing his childhood dream of living on a farm; he began his career as an engineer in 1971 with the Tennessee Valley Authority Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, where he served diligently for twenty-nine years; and

WHEREAS, a faith-filled man, Mr. Griffin was a member of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher, lecturer, singer, member of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, and member of the remodeling committee; and

WHEREAS, a believer in the educational learning benefits of small schools, he served his community by fighting to keep Midway High School from being consolidated; he also participated in the annual community fish fry in the Valley and served with the Watts Bar Utility District to bring city water to rural areas in the State; and

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

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Gail Marie Griffin, for thirty-five years until her passing; he was the proud father of Mary Alice (John) Devenney, Eileen (Pierre) Legault, Kathleen (Kent) Patterson, John Griffin, James Griffin, and Peter (Janay) Griffin; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his children, Mr. Griffin leaves to carry on his legacy his grandchildren, Savannah Griffin, Isaac Legault, Eli Griffin, Abigail Patterson, Elise Legault, Maggie Patterson, Annabelle Legault, and Kayla Patterson, and brother-in-law, Phil Guerrette; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Reverend John Griffin; and his sister, Mary Guerrette; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin 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 Robert Joseph "Bob" Griffin, 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. Griffin.

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.