

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 117

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Albert Benton Merkel, Sr.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Albert Benton Merkel, Sr. of Jackson; and

WHEREAS, a Jackson native, Mr. Merkel graduated from Jackson High School in 1962, before signing a professional baseball contract with the Boston Red Sox; and

WHEREAS, after his exciting athletic career, Albert Merkel, Sr., attended Lambuth University, where he continued to play baseball; and

WHEREAS, upon completing his undergraduate degree, he pursued his law degree at Memphis State University and proceeded to practice law for thirty-six successful years, once serving as president of the Jackson-Madison County Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his impressive career in sports, Mr. Merkel was inducted into the Lambuth University Sports Hall of Fame in 2010; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Albert Merkel, Sr. served as a faithful congregant of Englewood Baptist Church and maintained a strong passion for baseball, running, duck hunting, and riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle; and

WHEREAS, a proud and dutiful son, Mr. Merkel was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Johnny Lee and Melvin Merkel; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be forever cherished by his wife of forty-one years, Pamela Merkel; his daughter, Jennifer Merkel Webb, and her husband, Justin Webb; his two sons, CPT Albert Benton Merkel, Jr., and Joseph Merkel; his two grandchildren, Nathaniel and Caroline Webb; and his brother, Billy Merkel; and

WHEREAS, Albert Merkel, Sr., 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; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Albert Benton Merkel, Sr., 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. Merkel.

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