

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 123

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Bill Ortwein of  
Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness that the members of this General Assembly learned of the passing of Bill Ortwein of Chattanooga, a prominent attorney and civic leader who served his fellow citizens with distinction as a member of the General Assembly for two terms; and

WHEREAS, born on July 21, 1940, in Chattanooga, Bill Ortwein was the son of Freda Tucker Ortwein and Malvin Hubert Ortwein; he attended Chattanooga public schools and graduated from Central High School in 1958, where he was a major in the ROTC and an officer in the Key Club; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Mr. Ortwein joined the United States Marine Corps as a Private First Class; he proudly served his country and, later, remained in the Marine Corps Reserves as a corporal; and

WHEREAS, Bill Ortwein attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity and served on the board of the Fraternity Council; he received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Tennessee School of Law, serving as a member of Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity and receiving a Ford Foundation Grant to conduct research in the field of criminal law; and

WHEREAS, after a period of employment with Noone, Moseley and Bell, Mr. Ortwein joined the District Attorney's Office in 1966; three years later, he left to enter private practice as a criminal defense attorney. A professional of the highest caliber and dedication, Bill Ortwein was a member of the Chattanooga Bar Association, Chattanooga Trial Lawyers Association, and Tennessee Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Bill Ortwein was elected to the General Assembly to represent the 10<sup>th</sup> Senate District; he served in this capacity for two terms, during which time he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee; throughout his tenure in the Senate, he acted with compassion and wisdom and in the best interests of his constituents in East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a man of devout faith, he was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, where he served faithfully for many years; and

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

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Mary Myers Ortwein; two children, William Scott (Melinda) Ortwein and Frederick Lee (Rachel) Ortwein; six grandchildren, Mary Alexander, Clara Parker, Olivia Ray, William Ortwein, Riley Beavers, and Aidan Beavers; an aunt, Alice Marie Ortwein (Gilbert) Billingsley; an uncle, James (Aline) Ortwein; and several cousins; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we should remember the bountiful life of this dedicated public servant, distinguished practitioner of the law, and exemplary human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Bill Ortwein and his life of service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee, reflecting fondly upon his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

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