

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 150

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ronald Claiborne
"Ronnie" Richards of Brownsville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ronald Claiborne "Ronnie" Richards; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Richards 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, the son of Frank Acklen Richards and Laura English Richards, Mr. Richards was a graduate of the University of Tennessee and a lifelong Brownsville resident, who had a unique, enduring love for his community; he was a longtime board member of the Brownsville Arts Council and a former president of the Rotary Club of Brownsville, and he served as chief marketer during his time on the Brownsville-Haywood County Industrial Development board; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished professional, Mr. Richards was president of Richards Insurance Agency and the founder of Richards Cummins Real Estate; he served as a board member of First State Bank, and most recently, he worked with Builders Mutual Insurance Company, earning widespread respect and admiration from the people of his community; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Richards was an active and devout member of First Presbyterian Church, which he served faithfully for many years as an Elder and organist; and

WHEREAS, he was passionate about music, not only serving as organist for First Presbyterian Church but also accompanying the choir at the High Holy Days at Temple Adas Israel for forty-four years; and

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

WHEREAS, Ronnie Richards enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of forty-seven years, Sharon Estes Richards, and was the proud father of Ronald Claiborne Richards, Jr., Boyd Frank Richards, Abby Richards Nichols, and Megan Richards Wilson and the beloved grandfather of Claiborne Richards, Kennedy Richards, James Richards, Molly Nichols, Rich Nichols, Sadie Nichols, Carter Wilson, Lucy Wilson, and Jane Wilson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richards was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Lynne Richards Waddell; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Richards 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 ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ronald Claiborne "Ronnie" Richards, 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. Richards.

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