

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 264

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Stephen Lafon Ramsey of Collierville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Stephen Lafon Ramsey of Collierville; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Ramsey 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 in Somerset, Kentucky, on June 18, 1950, Stephen Ramsey was the son of the late Robert and Eugenia Ramsey; and

WHEREAS, from a young age, Mr. Ramsey lived a life full of passion and adventure; as a boy, he resided in Nicaragua and spoke fluent Spanish; and

WHEREAS, after several moves, he and his family settled in Memphis, where Mr. Ramsey graduated from White Station High School in 1968; he went on to receive a bachelor's degree in business administration from Memphis State University in 1973, where he was also a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Mr. Ramsey became a bag handler at Southern Airways, where he met and fell in love with his adored wife; he was also a flight instructor, and he would ferry airplanes to build his flight time; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Mr. Ramsey started a career in commercial airlines with Sunbelt Airlines, and in 1995, he landed his dream job with FedEx, serving with acumen and alacrity as an airbus captain and earning the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; he served in the position for twenty years before his retirement in 2015 and subsequently continued to fly corporate aviation; and

WHEREAS, with a fondness for aviation and forty years of flight experience, Mr. Ramsey often took to the air with his friends and influenced them to become professional airline pilots themselves; and

WHEREAS, aside from his many professional accomplishments, Mr. Ramsey was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ramsey will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by his beloved wife of nearly forty-three years, Cheryl Ramsey; his sons, Preston (Shelby) and Phillip (Elisabeth); his cherished grandchildren, Macallen, Price, Porter, Walker, and Madelyn; a brother, Mark (Carol) Ramsey; and a host of cousins whom he loved dearly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ramsey was a devoted member of Second Presbyterian Church, where he came to know and follow Christ; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ramsey 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 THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Stephen Lafon Ramsey, 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. Ramsey.

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.