

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 466

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Cornelius Craig Parrish of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Cornelius Craig "Neil" Parrish; and

WHEREAS, Neil Parrish 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 on July 15, 1936, in Nashville, Tennessee, Mr. Parrish was the son of Corinne Craig Parrish and Albert Elliott Parrish, Sr. and a graduate of Darlington School in Rome, Georgia, and Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, proud to serve his country, Neil Parrish was a member of the Air National Guard where he was assigned to photo intelligence and spent a year of active duty in France; and

WHEREAS, a highly successful businessman, Mr. Parrish enjoyed a twenty-five year career with National Life Insurance Company, which was founded by his maternal grandfather, Edward Burr Craig and his great uncle and namesake, Cornelius Abernathy Craig; and

WHEREAS, a devoted fan of country music who listened daily to WSM (We Shield Millions), Neil Parrish took great pride in his family's involvement with the formation of the Grand Ole Opry, which was founded by National Life as a vehicle to provide affordable insurance to rural America; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parrish formed Neil C. Parrish Investments after National Life was sold to American General, establishing his office at The Boardroom in Green Hills where he was among many friends; and

WHEREAS, a truly benevolent gentleman, Neil Parrish lent his time and energies to numerous charitable endeavors in both Nashville and New York City, including NCCJ, 100 Club, Shakespeare in the Park, and the Central Park Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, an avid golfer and devoted fan of the Tennessee Titans, Mr. Parrish's wonderful sense of humor and boundless enthusiasm garnered him scores of dear friends from all walks of life who considered themselves very lucky to have known him; and

WHEREAS, a loving husband and father, Neil Parrish is survived by his wife of thirty years, Nan Nelson Parrish; two daughters, Ashby Parrish Webber (Andrew) and Mary Shannon Paleologos (Andrew); a granddaughter, Ashby Taylor Webber; two grandsons, Harrison Parrish Webber and Logan Angelo Paleologos; and a brother-in-law, Gary Frank Nelson (Kathryn Wayne); and

WHEREAS, Neil Parrish 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, seldom do gentlemen of this stature walk among us and it is fitting that 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 EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Cornelius Craig "Neil" Parrish, 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. Parrish.

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