

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 644

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ronald "Ronnie" Lee Raper of Dayton.

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

WHEREAS, Ronnie Raper 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, Mr. Raper was a graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Banking and proudly served as a member of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Dayton, Ronnie Raper rendered sterling service as a building and code inspector for the City of Dayton and as a member of the Rhea County Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Raper was an important part of his community and participated in a number of professional and civic organizations, including the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, the Rhea County Civil Services Board, the Industrial Development Board, the Tennessee Strawberry Festival, and the Tennessee County Commission Association, of which he was a past president; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Raper was a fifty-year member of the Dayton Lodge 512 Free and Accepted Masons, a member of the Scottish Rite, and a member of the Alhambra Shrine; and

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

WHEREAS, Ronnie Raper enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Phyllis Wilkey Raper, and was the proud father of Leigh Ann Shadden and the treasured grandfather of Millie Shadden; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Raper is lovingly remembered by his sisters, Marilyn (Raymond) Monday and Nancy (Tobet) Thompson; his brothers-in-law, Jerry (Pam) Wilkey and David (Patti) Wilkey; and his father-in-law, Walter "Red" Wilkey; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, James and Margaret Raper, and an infant sister; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Raper 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 "Ronnie" Lee Raper, 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. Raper.

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