

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 863

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ralph Brown of Rockwood.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ralph Brown; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Brown 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 Wrigley on March 9, 1931, Ralph Brown was the son of Paul and Katie Brown; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown served his country with pride as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War and the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded gentleman and a man of the utmost devotion to his community, Mr. Brown also served as both a city councilman and vice mayor for Rockwood and a member of the Rockwood Electric Utility Board for eight years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown was a successful business owner, operating Ralph's Drive-In on Gateway Avenue and Brown's Restaurant on Front Street; after his retirement, he continued to work in Rockwood at Walmart for several years; and

WHEREAS, he evinced his religious faith as an active and devout member of First Baptist Church in Rockwood, where he served as a lifetime deacon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown loved his tractors and Corvettes, but most of all, he loved his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is survived by his wife of seventy-three years, Mary Heydel Brown; his children, Tony D. (Jeanie) Brown, Teresa "Sissy" Brown, Kathy Brown, and Susan

Brown; his grandchildren, Carey Hixson, Jessica Knowlton, Justin Brown, and Lindsey Spriggs; nine great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Mr. Brown was preceded in death by his sisters, Earlene Weaver and Carlene Clem, and his brother, Jim Brown; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Brown 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 Ralph Brown, 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. Brown.

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.