

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 871

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James B. "Jim" Spears of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of James B. "Jim" Spears of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Jim Spears was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional whose dedication to his community and his nation was unwavering and longstanding through years of devoted service; and

WHEREAS, following his graduation from high school in 1969, Mr. Spears left Murfreesboro, enlisting in the United States Marine Corps at the height of the Vietnam War; he graduated at the top of his recruit training class and initially trained in artillery, but he was later assigned to Marine Corps Aviation and stationed in South Carolina. He left the Marines in 1971 at the rank of corporal; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed a thirty-five-year career at AT&T and earned the respect and admiration of his peers and community alike for the superior quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded and sought after for his expertise, Mr. Spears went on to serve as a lobbyist and worked with members of the Tennessee General Assembly to ensure the passage of important legislation for his clients; and

WHEREAS, Jim Spears was a gentleman of many talents and interests; he toured the nation on a road bike with his dear friends Bo and Bill and dedicated his leisure time to racing motorcycles, cooking, and enjoying nature at his lake house; and

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

WHEREAS, Jim Spears will be sadly mourned but fondly remembered by his beloved wife, Carrie Spears; his mother, Doris Spears; his brothers, Johnny Spears and Joey (Veda) Spears; his sister, Sue Spears; his children, Dylan Spears, Sara (Terry) Rose, Taylor (Lauren)

Butler, and Paige Butler; his grandchildren, Isabella Spears, Tyler Rose, Colton Rose, and Walker Butler; and a host of friends and extended family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears was a beloved husband, father, brother, and son and a devoted friend to those who were blessed to know him; he 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 James B. "Jim" Spears, 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. Spears.

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.