

**No. R-72. House concurrent resolution in memory of Kenneth W. Sawyer and honoring his community service in the town of New Haven.**

(H.C.R.53)

Offered by: Representative Smith of New Haven

Offered by: Senators Ayer and Bray

Whereas, Ken Sawyer was born in 1934 and died in 2014 in the same house, at the Cloverset Farm on Sawyer Road (formerly East Road) in New Haven, and he demonstrated an abiding love of his hometown, and

Whereas, he graduated from Beeman Academy, having operated his family's farm as a high school student, and

Whereas, the Cloverset Farm continued to be the focus of Ken Sawyer's attention, and he and his wife, Suzanne, raised their four children on this homestead, and

Whereas, in 1971, Ken Sawyer was a proud cofounder of the New Haven Volunteer Fire Department and, for 19 years, he served as the department's second engineer, and

Whereas, in 1981, the Addison County Firefighters Association honored Ken Sawyer as its Company Officer of the Year Award recipient, and

Whereas, the importance that Ken Sawyer placed on his volunteer firefighting duties proved genetic as three of his four children and a granddaughter followed him in performing this special community service, and

Whereas, Ken Sawyer also gave his time to supporting public education as a school board member, and he gained great familiarity with the town's properties as a member of the zoning board of adjustment, and

Whereas, especially memorable in New Haven's town lore are the 19 years Ken Sawyer served as a justice of the peace, and

Whereas, aside from working at most elections and hearing tax appeals, Ken Sawyer presided at a most unusual wedding performed from a tractor seat, and this agriculturally set matrimonial union remains strong, and

Whereas, beyond the town of New Haven, Ken Sawyer served for 34 years on the Addison County committee of the federal Agricultural Stabilization Service (now the Farm Services Agency), and

Whereas, Ken Sawyer's death in 2014 marked the passing of a great husband, father, and grandfather, and the loss for New Haven of an irreplaceable citizen volunteer to whom the town has dedicated its 2014 annual report as a fitting memorial, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the Sawyer family and to Ken Sawyer's many friends in the town of New Haven, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send copies of this resolution to members of his family and the town of New Haven.