

No. R-207. House concurrent resolution in memory of Robert Harvey Beach Sr.

(H.C.R.168)

Offered by: Representatives Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh and Lanpher of Vergennes

Whereas, the lives of Bob Beach and the Basin Harbor Club (BHC), the Lake Champlain resort his family founded in the 1880s, were nearly synonymous, and

Whereas, even into his 20s, the supposedly reformed child prankster, who had availed himself of the resort's sole party line to eavesdrop on BHC guests, was still not above plotting a hilarious and mischievous deed, and

Whereas, after attending Kimball Union Academy and the University of Virginia, he served in General Patton's Third Army in Germany during World War II, and

Whereas, on returning home, having nearly outgrown his youthful deviousness, Bob Beach became BHC's ever attentive commander-in-chief, or from the perspective of the resort's young employees, the ominously omnipresent Mr. Beach, and

Whereas, as a respected figure in the hospitality industry, Bob Beach served as Vermont Hotel Association President and chaired the Resort Committee of the American Hotel and Lodging Association, and

Whereas, away from the Basin Harbor Club, he was a Master Mason affiliated with Dorchester Lodge # 1 and the Cairo Shrine Temple, and

Whereas, despite his employees' trepidation every time Bob Beach sought a private conversation, he was in reality a fun-loving individual about whom many humorous tales were told, and

Whereas, he met his wife, Merle, when she was a BHC guest, and Bob Beach set a precedent among his contemporaries to consider the BHC as the perfect place to find a life partner, and

Whereas, Bob Beach was an avid golfer, and as a prominent member of the Lake Champlain Antique and Classic Boat Society, oversaw the restoration of The Wave, a neglected 1930 vessel that he transformed into a boat show champion, and

Whereas, at almost 97 years of age, following a rewarding and exciting life, Bob Beach died on July 15, 2016, and his survivors include his children, Pennie and Robert Jr., four grandchildren, and his dear friend, Suzanne Morrow Long, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Robert Harvey Beach Sr., and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of his children, to Suzanne Long, and to the Basin Harbor Club.