

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1420

By Maddox

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory and celebrate the life of
Lucian John "L.J." Miller, Jr. of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Lucian John "L.J." Miller, Jr., a loyal Christian servant and modest gentleman who accomplished a great deal during his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, as a child he overcame his family's poverty during the Great Depression; as a young adult barely out of high school he helped to win World War II as a member of America's Greatest Generation; and after the war, he became the first person in his family to graduate from college and worked his way through law school before embarking upon his distinguished career with one of America's finest companies; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hope Arkansas, also the home of President Bill Clinton and Governor Mike Huckabee, L.J. Miller was inducted into the United States Army Air Corps in June 1942 after graduating from high school in May; he served the Air Corps with distinction as a mechanic during World War II in the Pacific Theater and flew over Hiroshima shortly after the atomic bomb was dropped there; and

WHEREAS, after courageously serving his country, Mr. Miller earned a degree from Arkansas State University and then put himself through Southern Law School; and

WHEREAS, he next began his illustrious career with State Farm; he served the company with acumen and alacrity for thirty-one remarkable years before taking a much deserved retirement in 1990; and

WHEREAS, although he enjoyed much personal success during his life, L.J. Miller devoted his life to his family first and foremost; and

WHEREAS, he was married to his loving spouse, Frances Conner Miller, for fifty-four years, and together they raised two wonderful daughters, Jan Dugan and Nancy Miller-Herron,

in the United Methodist Church; both Jan and Nancy have served the Church faithfully with their extraordinary gifts and by God's grace; and

WHEREAS, although he was extremely fond of all types of food and University of Arkansas athletics, Mr. Miller loved children more than anything, and especially his precious grandchildren, Erin Dugan, Sean Dugan, Ben Herron, John Herron, and Rick Herron; and

WHEREAS, he was also a legendary handyman who could fix anything, and he loved to work on home improvement and repair projects with his family; and

WHEREAS, L.J. Miller expressed his devout faith via his attendance at and many good works in service of Colonial Park United Methodist Church, where he was a member of the Fidelis Class; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, daughters, and grandchildren, Mr. Miller is survived by his sons-in-law, Dennis Dugan and our colleague, Senator Roy Herron; his sisters, Esta Vogel and Jean Miller; his brother, Ken Miller, nine beloved nieces and nephews; and nineteen great nieces and great nephews; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Laura and Lucien Miller; two brothers, James Miller and Reese Miller; and a sister, Merle Atkins; and

WHEREAS, L.J. Miller leaves behind an indelible legacy of love and laughter, goodness and gratitude, and family and friends who will cherish his memory always; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember this exceptional professional, devoted family man, and exemplary human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory, even as we celebrate the life, of Lucian John "L.J." Miller, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his many accomplishments as a man, his many good works and his virtue as a Christian, and his great spirit of love, understanding, and compassion as a husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Miller.

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

