

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 252

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Scott McDonald.

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

WHEREAS, Mr. McDonald 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, he was instrumental in the organization of "Symphony at the Celebration" in Shelbyville, which features the Nashville Symphony; and

WHEREAS, the event was originally founded in June of 1989 by Empire Berol Corp and the Shelbyville Rotary Club, and the concert took place in the main outdoor arena at the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Grounds in Shelbyville; and

WHEREAS, several years after the inaugural concert, sponsorship for "Symphony at the Celebration" was assumed by First American Bank under Scott McDonald's astute leadership; Mr. Scott was President of the Shelbyville branch of the First American Bank at the time; and

WHEREAS, Scott McDonald created the local steering committee and included the Bedford County Arts Council, taking the "Symphony at the Celebration" from an annual concert to a community-oriented event that features guest artists such as the Community High School Band, the Cascade High School Band, the Murfreesboro Youth Orchestra, Steel de Boro, and local dance students; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 concert will include the Shelbyville Central High School Band and the Motlow College Jazz Band and will be held in Calsonic Arena on the Celebration Grounds; and

WHEREAS, “Symphony at the Celebration” also showcases an art show featuring the works of various local artists of all ages, from school children to professional artists, during each year’s concert; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to the citizens of his community, Scott McDonald put countless hours into this event each year to benefit Shelbyville; he believed it was a valuable educational tool to help teach appreciation of the arts to young children, and for this reason, children and students of any age are given free admission to the event; and

WHEREAS, because the event is wholly sponsor-based, the Bedford County Arts Council receives 100 percent of the proceeds from ticket sales; and

WHEREAS, First American Bank eventually became a part of AmSouth Bank, which was then acquired by Regions Bank, which now sponsors all Nashville Symphony community concerts; and

WHEREAS, even when he was no longer the presenting sponsor of the event, Scott McDonald continued to serve as a member of the Steering Committee and as an enthusiastic supporter of the concert; and

WHEREAS, Scott McDonald 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 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 SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Scott McDonald, 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 Scott McDonald.

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