

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 83

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Bobby J. Nicholson for meritorious service to this country.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these brave soldiers must never be forgotten, as their efforts made possible the exemplary quality of life that is enjoyed by the citizens of Tennessee today; and

WHEREAS, Bobby J. Nicholson of Columbia is one such individual who, throughout his impressive military career as a member of the United States Army, served with unwavering dedication and fortitude, rising to meet all challenges in his path; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicholson served in Korea during the Korean War, seeing combat action at the infamous Heartbreak Ridge. During one battle, Bobby Nicholson secured a mountain cave using a flamethrower, capturing more than thirty Chinese soldiers in the process; and

WHEREAS, his fearlessness and heroism were not limited to the heat of battle, however, as shown by his decisive actions which saved the lives of two fellow soldiers during a training mission in White Sands, New Mexico. Mr. Nicholson rescued the two men, a tank driver and machine gunner, from the fiery wreckage of a tank set ablaze after a backfire; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his retirement from the military at the rank of Sergeant, Bobby Nicholson was proud recipient of two honorable discharges and a number of military awards, including a Bronze Star and a Silver Star; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicholson is the widower of the late Doris Jeannette Nicholson, with whom he shared life and love for fifty years. Mrs. Nicholson also served proudly as a member of the United States Armed Forces at the rank of First Lieutenant and she was widely known for her business acumen and her dedication to serving the needs of children and abused women; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson shared a wonderful story in life, one which was transcribed by Bill Combs in the book *My Girl*; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Nicholson is the proud father of three sons: Robert, a Tennessee State Trooper, Chris, a former police chief, and Curtis, a Franklin business owner. He is also the doting grandfather of twenty grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his military career, Bobby Nicholson performed his duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism, and his service can only be categorized as outstanding; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicholson served his country with great courage and gallantry, and his bravery and fortitude are wholly deserving of proper recognition; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Nicholson's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and his country stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Bobby J. Nicholson from Columbia for his meritorious service as a member of the United States Army, offering our thanks for a difficult job well done and applauding his bravery in the face of the gravest dangers.

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