

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 732

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Tutt S. Bradford of Maryville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Tutt S. Bradford; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradford 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, Tutt Bradford was born in Columbia, South Carolina, on April 30, 1917, the second of five children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradford was well known in Blount County as the former publisher/owner of *The Daily Times*; and

WHEREAS, his first venture into print media began when he had a paper route as a child in the 1920s; and

WHEREAS, Tutt Bradford served with valor and distinction as a member of the United States military during World War II and, upon the conclusion of his service, he moved into newspaper advertising; and

WHEREAS, his tremendous success led to his promotion to publisher of a newspaper in Cleveland and, later, as publisher of a Bristol newspaper; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Mr. Bradford purchased *The Daily Times* which, at the time, had a circulation of only 7,500; and

WHEREAS, he served as owner, publisher, and occasionally, editor, involving his daughters, Nancy Cain and Debbie Bradford Moon, in the publication; and

WHEREAS, Debbie's husband, Jerome F. Moon, was named the president and publisher of the paper in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradford continued to serve with acumen and alacrity as Chairman of the Board until the paper was sold to the Persis Group of Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1989, at which time the circulation had increased to 22,000; and

WHEREAS, during his newspaper career and long after he retired, Tutt Bradford remained very active as a community leader and benefactor; and

WHEREAS, due to hearing loss he suffered during World War II, Mr. Bradford was an avid supporter of the Hearing and Speech Foundation, which he co-founded with John Berry, owner of Blount Hearing and Speech Services, to provide such services for people who could not otherwise afford them; and

WHEREAS, he worked for funding the still-uncompleted Foothills Parkway in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and he worked successfully to get Cades Cove placed into a historical district in the Smokies' master plan in order to preserve some of the structures and their open nature; and

WHEREAS, Tutt Bradford served numerous organizations, including Maryville College, Blount County Chamber of Commerce, Blount County Industrial Development Board, United Way of Blount County, Pellissippi State Community College, and the Blount County Public Library; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, he was named the 1991 Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year by the National Society of Fundraising Executives; and

WHEREAS, Tutt Bradford 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 SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Tutt S. Bradford, 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 Mr. Bradford.

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