

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 141

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Phil B. Harris of Greenfield.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Phil B. Harris of Greenfield; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris 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 officially demonstrated his commitment to his community as City Attorney for the City of Greenfield from 1948-1966; County Attorney for Weakley County from 1957-1958; and State Senator of the 28th Senatorial District in the 1953 and 1955 terms of the Tennessee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a Greenfield native, Mr. Harris graduated from Greenfield High School before attending the University of Tennessee Junior College, after which he earned his A.B. degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, though he completed two years of coursework at the University of Virginia Law School, he postponed his studies to join the war effort, valiantly serving his country in World War II; and

WHEREAS, upon his honorable discharge as First Lieutenant on June 4, 1946, Mr. Harris returned to law school and graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of Law/Juris Doctorate degree; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong public servant and friend to the community, Phil Harris dedicated his time and energy to numerous organizations, serving as a member of the State and American Bar Associations, member of the Greenfield Rotary Club for sixty-three years, past president and Paul Harris Fellow of the Greenfield Rotary Club, and past commander of American Legion Post 133; and

WHEREAS, he was also a devout member of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenfield, where he taught Sunday School for fifteen years and served as deacon and elder for sixty years; and

WHEREAS, his rich and generous life served as a beautiful tribute to his beloved parents, the late Phillip D. Harris and Bennie Barton Harris, and his wife, the late Marilyn Alexander Harris; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be forever cherished by his loving wife, Jane Sorrells Harris; his children, Suzanne Welles and her husband, Hunter, Pattie Jenne and her husband, Roger, and Bart Harris and his wife, Pam; his grandchildren, Hunt Welles, Sanna Welles Tucker, Michael Jenne, Matthew Jenne, Josh Jenne, Philip Harris, Holly Harris Holt, and Hailey Harris Geabhart; and his great-grandchildren, Mary Mitchell Tucker, Jackson Tucker, Ashton Jenne, Riley Jenne, Will Jenne, Jake Jenne, Harris Jenne, Connor Jenne, Carter Holt, Cooper Holt, Gracie Geabhart, and Emerson Geabhart; and

WHEREAS, Phil Harris 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 EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Phil B. Harris, 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. Harris.

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