

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 396

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Thomas R. "Tom"
Hamby of Harriman.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Thomas R. "Tom" Hamby of Harriman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hamby 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, born in 1943, Tom Hamby demonstrated the utmost integrity throughout a long career in public service, which began in the early 1970s with his election as Justice of the Peace; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hamby served on the Harriman City Council in the late 1970s, and he held the position of vice mayor before his election as Harriman City Mayor, in which position he admirably served from 1981 to 1983; and

WHEREAS, while diligently performing his elected duties, Tom Hamby was also employed by the Harriman Paper Mill until its closure; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Mr. Hamby established Tom Hamby Auto Sales, in Harriman, and soon thereafter opened two additional car lots in Morgan County; and

WHEREAS, Tom Hamby was known as a man who greatly enjoyed working on cars, and, as he liked to say, "wheeling and dealing," and he continued operating his auto sales business until his appointment as Harriman City Street Supervisor by Mayor Harold Wester; and

WHEREAS, in May 1999, Mr. Hamby was appointed to serve as Roane County Road Superintendent, in which capacity he served with acumen and alacrity until his retirement in August 2012; he also held the distinction of being the only road superintendent ever to run unopposed in Roane County; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement, he spent the next few years doing what he loved the most: working in his garage with his collection of license plates and antique cars; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Tom Hamby is survived by his beloved wife, Patsy Gilmore Hamby; one son, Brent (Edye) Hamby; three daughters, Tami (Steve) Ladd, Susie Easter, Robin Newport (Jimmy) Fox; one brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Jeannie Hamby; and eight grandchildren: Chase and Sara Hamby, Rylee Easter, Chloe, Summer, Gavin, Ella, and Grayce Fox; as well as numerous special friends and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hamby was preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Sara Belle Hamby; one sister, Patsy Lay; and aunts and uncles, Archie Hamby, Pauline and Mack Cooper, Louise and Harlan Johnson, and Robert and Ruby Fritts; and

WHEREAS, Tom Hamby 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 NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Thomas R. "Tom" Hamby, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his contributions to the people of Tennessee, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and extend our condolences to Mr. Hamby's family and many friends.

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