

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 459

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. O. Tom Johns, Jr., of Murfreesboro.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. O. Tom Johns, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johns 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, Dr. Johns graduated from Murfreesboro Central High School before earning his bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1968 and his medical doctorate from the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johns served with acumen and alacrity as a medical professional for more than forty years; after graduating from medical school, he worked in Tampa, Florida, and then at Vanderbilt University Medical Center before founding Murfreesboro Orthopedic Association in 1978; and

WHEREAS, through his involvement with the Tennessee Orthopaedic Alliance, Dr. Johns worked with Dr. Michael Jordan, with whom he founded Middle Tennessee Orthopedics and Sports Medicine; and

WHEREAS, active in his community, Dr. Johns worked closely with both area high school athletic programs and Middle Tennessee State University athletics; he also served as a United States team doctor during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johns was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of fifty years, Betsy Coffman Johns; his daughter, Dr. Rebecca Johns-Wommack; his two sons, Lieutenant Colonel Tommy Johns and

Dr. Judd Johns; a sister, Betty Jean Engleheart; two grandsons, Oscar Thomas Johns IV and Omar Tucker Johns; and a granddaughter, Gracie Wommack; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Oscar Thomas Johns, Sr., and Betty Lucille Phillips Johns, and his beloved grandmother, Betty Pauline Lester Phillips; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johns 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 the members of 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. O. Tom Johns, Jr., 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 Dr. Johns.

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