

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 846

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reuben Scott "Rube" Rhea, Jr. of Somerville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reuben Scott "Rube" Rhea, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Rube Rhea 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 on August 8, 1950, Rube Rhea was the son of Reuben Scott Rhea, Sr., and Whitney Burnette Rhea; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Fayette County High School, he went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the College of Agriculture at Mississippi State University, where he lettered in football; and

WHEREAS, after college, he returned to Woodburn Farm, where he continued the family farming interests: raising crops (particularly cotton), working cattle, and riding horses; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhea served on the boards of the National Field Trial Association, the Soil Conservation, and the Farm Service Agency; he was the past president and member of the Cattlemen's Association and board chairman of The Bank of Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, a man of faith, he was a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church Somerville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhea carried his passion for football throughout his life; as a member of the M Club, he avidly supported the Bulldogs, and he shared his love for the team with his children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Rube Rhea was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhea enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of forty-five years, Margaret Ann Tomlin Rhea; he was the proud father of Reuben Scott Rhea III and Gordon Matthews Rhea; and the loving grandfather of Shelby Rhea Brown, Reuben Scott Rhea IV, Abby Rhea, Whitney Rhea, Anna Rhea, and Jenna Rhea; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Boyd Burnette Rhea; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhea 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reuben Scott "Rube" Rhea, 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 Mr. Rhea.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.