



SR1090

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Harry F. Whitaker of Peoria, who passed away on November 5, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Harry Whitaker was born in Cynthiana, Kentucky to Sydney and Myrtle (Kerns) Whitaker on June 19, 1927; he graduated from Woodruff High School and served in the United States Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theater; he graduated from Bradley University and married Mary Arlene Chandler at Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria on April 23, 1950; and

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WHEREAS, Harry Whitaker enjoyed a 38-year career in education beginning in 1950 with his first teaching position in Sunnyland; he joined Peoria High School in 1954, where he served as an English teacher, assistant football coach, head baseball coach, head basketball coach, golf coach, counselor, and principal; in 1972, he was named Assistant Superintendent of Peoria District 150 schools; in 1974, he was named Superintendent of District 150, serving until his retirement in 1988; and

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WHEREAS, Harry Whitaker was inducted in to the Sports Hall of Fame for Woodruff High School, the Peoria High School Hall

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1 of Fame, the Bradley University Hall of Fame, and the Greater
2 Peoria Area Sports Hall of Fame; in retirement, he and his wife
3 spent 28 winters in Alabama; he loved following his
4 grandchildren and their activities, the Chicago Cubs, reading,
5 and playing golf; he served on many boards and organizations
6 throughout the community and was a member of Grace Presbyterian
7 Church; and

8 WHEREAS, Harry Whitaker was preceded in death by two
9 brothers and three sisters; and

10 WHEREAS, Harry Whitaker is survived by his wife, Arlene;
11 his sons, Gary (Becky) and Dan (Kim); his grandchildren,
12 Christopher (Laurie), Jeff (Megan), Michael (Kara), Emily,
13 John, Sarah (Aaron) Seiler, and Mark; and his
14 great-grandchildren, Carly, Cole, Logan, Nathan, Luke, Scott,
15 and Hanna; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
18 Harry F. Whitaker, and extend our sincere condolences to his
19 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of Harry Whitaker as an expression of

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1 our deepest sympathy.