



SR0228

LRB101 11651 MST 57920 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Vernon Paul "Vern" Prenzler of Bloomington, who passed away on March 10, 2019; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler was born in Bloomington to Walter and Alma Gerling Prenzler on August 11, 1928; he attended Trinity Lutheran Grade School and graduated from Bloomington High School; he graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1950, where he was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity; he served in the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1952 and was stationed in Italy, Austria, and Germany; he married Ruth Urquhart on January 28, 1955, and she passed away in 1974; he married Doris Petersen on July 4, 1983; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler graduated from a lumber dealer short course at the University of Washington after his military service; he managed and later owned the Corn Belt Lumber Company, where his father preceded him as manager; in 1958, he discovered his true passion, developing real estate; he developed his first residential subdivision (Brightview) in Normal; he helped develop, often with partners, over 2,000 residential lots and commercial developments; he also named many of the streets in Bloomington and Normal; and

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

1 WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler served on the Bloomington City
2 Council from 1961 to 1965; he voted to sell the electric plant
3 and join Illinois Power and to build Evergreen Lake, which
4 became a second source of water for Bloomington; he was a
5 member of the McLean County Board and served on the McLean
6 County Republican Central Committee; in 1967, he worked to
7 prevent I-55 from being diverted to Peoria (the Kerner Curve
8 plan), allowing for Bloomington-Normal to become a
9 transportation hub; and

10 WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler enjoyed traveling, especially to
11 Europe; he made friends everywhere he went and shared stories
12 and photos with his family and friends; he was a member of the
13 Young Men's Club and was active with the Bible Study
14 Fellowship; he was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church
15 and, for many years, St. John's Lutheran Church; and

16 WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler was preceded in death by his first
17 wife, Ruth; his parents; and his brother, Lyle; and

18 WHEREAS, Vern Prenzler is survived by his wife, Doris; his
19 sons, Kurt (Rita) and Erik (Terri); his daughter, Judy; his
20 stepson, David (Jan) Petersen; his stepdaughter, Karen
21 Erickson; and his grandchildren, Alexis, Anna, Christian,
22 Edward, Roland, Ruth, Brenda, Jim, Elizabeth, and Erik;
23 therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Vernon Paul "Vern" Prenzler and extend our sincere condolences
4 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Vern Prenzler as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.