



SR1281

LRB101 21816 ECR 72770 r

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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 William "Bill" Ahrenkiel of Athens, who passed away on July 5, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel was born to William Sr. and Marie Ahrenkiel in rural Sangamon County on January 24, 1926; he graduated from Athens High School, where he had been a starter on the 1944 Warrior basketball team; while in school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and immediately reported for active duty in May of 1944; he served on a destroyer escort along the Icelandic route and was involved in the battle of the North Atlantic; after the war, he joined the Army Reserve and was called to active duty at the start of the Korean War; he served two years in the U.S. Army before returning to civilian life; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel was employed by the State of Illinois as a driver's license examiner, with the park service, and with the Illinois Department of Transportation; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel was a great help to the Athens Municipal Library's Special Collections Room, where he shared pertinent historical information about Athens; and

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1 WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel was well known for his fishing and
2 hunting skills; he raised and trained hunting dogs and was
3 acclaimed for his duck decoy, duck call, and fishing lure
4 collections; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel was preceded in death by his
6 parents; his wife of 46 years, Mary Ahrenkiel; and his two
7 sisters, Ruth Austin and Evelyn Ehrengart; and

8 WHEREAS, Bill Ahrenkiel is survived by his brother, Richard
9 Ahrenkiel; his nephews, Richard and Daniel Austin, John
10 Ehrengart, Richard Ahrenkiel Jr., and S. Phillip Ahrenkiel; his
11 niece, Jane (Ahrenkiel) Hittle; and his numerous grandnephews
12 and grandnieces; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 William "Bill" Ahrenkiel and extend our sincere condolences to
16 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family Bill Ahrenkiel as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.