



SR0076

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois wish to express their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Morris B. Chapman of Edwardsville who passed away on Sunday, February 18, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in 1919 in Granite City to Robert and Gladys Chapman; he was united in marriage for 59 years to Thelma (Hoggett); and

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WHEREAS, He was a highly respected trial lawyer, graduating from St. Louis University Law School in 1942, and practicing law for more than 63 years in the Granite City area; he was a past president of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association and the Tri City Bar Association; he was also an Illinois State committeeman for the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, a member of the prestigious Inner Circle of Advocates, and a member of many other law-related organizations; in 1954, he became the youngest lawyer at the time to have argued before the United States Supreme Court; and

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WHEREAS, He was active in the civil rights movement in the 1960s and 1970s; he was a life member of the NAACP and marched in Chicago with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1966; as a younger lawyer, he did volunteer work with the ACLU in

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1 Mississippi; he was a member of the Baha'i Faith and his family  
2 lived in Guatemala for three years serving the faith, and while  
3 there was a member of the Guatemalan Baha'i National Spiritual  
4 Assembly; he then lived in Trinidad and Tabago for two more  
5 years serving the Baha'i faith; and

6 WHEREAS, He was an avid aviator, horseman, automobile  
7 enthusiast, and watch collector; and

8 WHEREAS, The passing of Morris B. Chapman has been deeply  
9 felt by many, especially his wife, Thelma; his children and  
10 their spouses, Morris Chapman Jr., Martha and Jim Leary,  
11 Melissa and Phil Rheinecker, Amy and Greg McCamus and James  
12 Chapman; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; he was  
13 preceded in death by his parents; his son, Robert Chapman; his  
14 brother, Robert E. Chapman; and his twin sister, Doris Fleming;  
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
18 Morris B. Chapman and we 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 his family as an expression of our deepest

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1 sympathy.