



SR0478

LRB095 16817 GRL 42855 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of John Lukehart of Oak Park, who passed away on December 11, 2007; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, John Lukehart was born on his family's farm in Laurel, Iowa; he graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Distributed Studies, focusing on sociology and political science; he moved to Oak Park in 1980; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, John Lukehart developed a sterling reputation as an advocate for fair housing; he worked tirelessly for the Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities, a fair housing organization started by Martin Luther King in the 1960s; he was actively involved in the Village of Oak Park's community relations commission, dealing with discrimination in the 1980s; he was also instrumental in the creation of the Illinois Housing Roundtable, a group that coordinates the activities of the various fair housing groups in the Chicago area; and

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

WHEREAS, As an advocate for fair housing, John Lukehart attempted to stress the relationship between employment, housing, and affirmative housing strategies for low and moderate income families; his innate ability to connect with

20

21

22

1 labor unions, faith-based groups, middle and upper income
2 people, social justice groups, civil rights groups, and
3 business entities aided the council immensely in its fight for
4 fairness in housing practices; and

5 WHEREAS, John Lukehart's passion for equal treatment for
6 all was only matched by his intense love for art; he worked
7 with the Oak Park Area Arts Council, serving as president of
8 the organization since 2002; he was instrumental in the passage
9 of Oak Park's Public Arts Ordinance; he helped to pay for a
10 lease for the first two large sculptures placed in Oak Park out
11 of his own pocket; he was also a proud supporter of Off The
12 Wall, a summer arts employment program for local teens; and he
13 was awarded the Joseph Randall Shapiro Award in 2006 by the Oak
14 Park Area Arts Council for his numerous contributions to the
15 arts; and

16 WHEREAS, John Lukehart's love for art was also personal; he
17 was known as a great photographer, donating photos to the arts
18 council's annual fall fundraiser; and

19 WHEREAS, John Lukehart was preceded in death by his father,
20 L.J. "Mike" Lukehart; and

21 WHEREAS, John Lukehart is survived by his wife, Mary Daly
22 Lewis; his children, Jennifer and Jason Lukehart; his

1 step-children, Colin and Alison Lewis; his mother, Donna (nee
2 Stewart); his siblings, Lynda (Morris) Wolken and Greg (Cheryl)
3 Lukehart; his in-laws, Sharon, Patrick (Lorraine), Edward
4 (Sharon), and Michael (Stella) Daly; and his many aunts,
5 uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins; and

6 WHEREAS, John Lukehart will be remembered by all who knew
7 and loved him as a quiet and calm, yet passionate person, whose
8 dedication to the arts and fair treatment to all were without
9 peer; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
12 his family and friends, the passing of John Lukehart; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of John Lukehart as an expression of
16 our sympathy.