



HR0967

LRB097 21163 GRL 68657 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of John  
4 Thomas Clark, Jr.; and

5           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. was born on May 18, 1921, in  
6 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; his parents were John Thomas Clark,  
7 Sr. and Patricia Ferguson; he married Ruth Clark in 1949 and  
8 later separated; he married Margaret Williams in 1964; and

9           WHEREAS, Following the separation of his parents at the age  
10 of 4, John Clark, Jr. and his older sister, Marion, moved with  
11 their mother to Chicago; he later attended Forrestville  
12 Elementary School and graduated from John Farren Elementary  
13 School; after briefly attending Englewood High School, he  
14 graduated from Parker High School (now Paul Robeson High  
15 School) in December of 1938; after high school, he attended the  
16 University of Illinois for one year before finishing his  
17 baccalaureate degree at Lincoln University in Jefferson City,  
18 Missouri; while at Lincoln University, he was initiated into  
19 the Alpha Psi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on April 1,  
20 1945; he subsequently moved back to Chicago after graduating  
21 from Lincoln University and began working jobs that mostly  
22 focused on manufacturing; and

1           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. manufactured aircraft engines at  
2 Buick Motors during the early years of World War II; and

3           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. began working for the State of  
4 Illinois in April of 1951; in January of 1974, he moved to the  
5 State of Illinois Department of Public Aid, where he remained  
6 until his retirement in February of 1995; he also worked for  
7 Sears Roebuck and Company; after his son, Eric, left for  
8 college, he and Margaret traveled the world, visiting Europe,  
9 Asia, and South America; and

10           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. was an active member of Alpha Phi  
11 Alpha Fraternity and of the Xi Lambda Chapter; he served as the  
12 Regional Secretary under Midwest Regional Vice President Bro.  
13 Thomas Pawley; he also served in various offices in Xi Lambda  
14 Chapter, including his last office as Associate Editor of the  
15 Sphinx, supported chapter events, and attended Alpha  
16 conventions; in 1983, he was raised to the level of 3rd Degree  
17 Master Mason in North Star Lodge #1 of the Princehall Grand  
18 Lodge; and

19           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. was an avid bridge player who  
20 played in many regional and national tournaments, winning many  
21 of them even late in his bridge playing career; he was also a  
22 long time member of the Midwest Bridge Unit; and

1           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. was preceded in death by his wife  
2 of 47 years, Margaret; his parents; and his sister, Marion; and

3           WHEREAS, John Clark, Jr. is survived by his sons, Phillip,  
4 Dennis, John III, and Eric Clark, Sr.; his daughters-in-law,  
5 Evelyn Clark and Michelle Harris; his grandchildren, Devin,  
6 Aaron, Christine, Jordan, Dana, Eric, Jr., Caiyah, Tasia,  
7 Justice, Zyra, and Andrew Clark; and his many  
8 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends; therefore,  
9 be it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of  
13 John Thomas Clark, Jr.; and be it further

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