



HR0468

LRB098 12501 MST 46913 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Ralph J. Converse of Peoria, who passed away on June 9, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Ralph Converse was born June 29, 1941, in Akron, Ohio, to Irving "Cotty" and Ethelyn "Jackie" Smith Converse; he graduated from the University of Illinois in 1963 with a degree in engineering; he played centerfield for the Illini and was a loyal fan for over 50 years; he played several years of semi-pro baseball in Kane County and Evanston; he married Jane Griffin Bodman on October 17, 1964, in Winnetka; and

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WHEREAS, Ralph Converse had a distinguished 32-year career at IBM before retiring as branch manager in Peoria; he was president of Cullinan Properties before renewing his passion for baseball as vice-president and general manager of the Peoria Chiefs for 9 years; and

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WHEREAS, Ralph Converse was admired for his enthusiastic leadership, devotion to his family, his business success, and his passion for the Peoria community; and

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WHEREAS, Ralph Converse enjoyed the highest level of respect and gratitude from the many residents, elected

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1 officials, and friends whose lives he touched; and

2 WHEREAS, Ralph Converse was an energetic fundraiser and  
3 volunteer who served many groups including the United Way  
4 (founding member of the Pillars Society), the Salvation Army,  
5 Easter Seals, the Boy Scouts, the Peoria Zoological Society,  
6 and the Economic Development Council; and

7 WHEREAS, Ralph Converse is survived by his wife, Jane; his  
8 daughter Amy (Andy) Schlicksup; his son, Ted (Kara) Converse;  
9 his grandchildren, Georgia West, Janey Schlicksup, and Sophia  
10 and Kate Converse; his step-grandchildren, Jack and Jake  
11 Rieger; his brothers, David, Dennis, and Roger; his 97 year-old  
12 father, Cotty; and many other members of the extended family;  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
15 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16 we mourn the passing of Ralph J. Converse, and extend our  
17 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
18 and loved him; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of Ralph J. Converse as an expression  
21 of our deepest sympathy.