



SR0131

LRB098 10687 GRL 40993 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 Robert F. "Oly" Olson of Broadwell, who passed away on January 9, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Olson was born on June 8, 1930, in Lincoln; his parents were Alfred and Mildred (Amberg) Olson; he married Norma (Shorty) Jean Van Fossen on December 12, 1957; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Olson was raised in Broadwell and attended Elkhart Community High School; he subsequently attended the University of Illinois through his junior year; and

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WHEREAS, Robert Olson was a veteran of the Korean War, having served in the United States Army Corps of Engineers from 1951 to 1953; after obtained his basic training at Ft. Riley, Kansas, he was stationed in Alaska; and

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WHEREAS, After his stint in the Army, Robert Olson worked as a carpenter and operated a service station in Elkhart; after college, he managed an office for the USDA in Belleville; in 1960, an opportunity to return to farming in Logan County presented itself and he began his career in "the best job" he could ever want; he established a Farm Management Service and managed farms for absentee landowners; he was also one of the

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1 founders of the Elkhart Community Bank and served on the Board
2 of Directors for the Elkhart and Illini Banks; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1986, Robert Olson was appointed to fill a
4 vacancy as Representative in the Illinois General Assembly;
5 following his appointment, he served in the General Assembly
6 with distinction for 9 years until his retirement in 1994; and

7 WHEREAS, Robert Olson enjoyed working at his homestead in
8 Broadwell, gardening, reading, history, traveling the United
9 States, and collecting antiques; and

10 WHEREAS, Robert Olson was a member of Immanuel Lutheran
11 Church, Elkhart Legion Post 616, Lincoln Elks 914, and the 40 &
12 8 Club; and

13 WHEREAS, Robert Olson is survived by his wife; his
14 children, Robert (Dee) Olson, Nancy (Kevin) Courtwright, Susan
15 (Bryan) Johnston, James (Ann) Olson, and Sandra Tiffany; his
16 grandchildren, Madeline Olson, Kasey and Kylie (Fricke)
17 Courtwright, Jason and Leslie (Pfeifer) Johnston, Abby, Jake,
18 and Betsy Olson, and Elaine, Sam, Will, and Adrienne Tiffany;
19 his great-grandchildren, Lexi Chambers, Kallie Courtwright,
20 and Nolan Pfeifer; his sister, Mary Ann (Verne) Garrison; and
21 his brother, David (Lois) Olson; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
3 his family and friends, the passing of Robert F. "Oly" Olson;
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Robert F. "Oly" Olson as an
7 expression of our sympathy.