



SR0038

LRB100 06812 MST 16861 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 Stephen H. Otis of Marengo, who passed away on January 2, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Stephen Otis was born in Belvidere to Elsa (Behm) and Stephen W. Otis on November 9, 1936; he served in the United States Naval Reserve as a Seabee, achieving the rank of Builder Second Class; he married Dorothy A. Slaughter at the United Methodist Church on January 28, 1956; and

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WHEREAS, Stephen Otis worked for Otis Construction and Otis Building Supply, building hundreds of homes in the Marengo area; he provided an opportunity for students to learn a lifelong trade through the high school's Cooperative Work Training Program from 1968 to 1984; he participated in building projects at Judson College, Blackhawk Baptist Camp, and Lake Springfield, often taking his younger grandsons along with him; one of his proudest accomplishments was overseeing the construction of a teacher housing project for the Hopi Mission School in Arizona in 1986; and

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WHEREAS, Stephen Otis was a member of the Marengo Planning and Zoning Commission; he served on the Special Education District of McHenry County Executive Board from 1970 to 1974,

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1 the McHenry County Regional Board of School Trustees, and the
2 McHenry County College Board of Trustees; he was the Marengo
3 Township Assessor for seven years and on the Board of Education
4 of Marengo Community High school from 1970 to 1979; and

5 WHEREAS, Stephen Otis was an active member of the First
6 Baptist Church in Marengo; he served as the Regional President
7 of the American Baptist Men; he also taught Bible study and
8 every May he was the head egg chef at the annual May breakfast;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Stephen Otis enjoyed spending time with his
11 grandchildren, attending their sporting events, and working on
12 projects in his shop; in retirement, he was a founding member
13 of Dino's Breakfast Club and was revered for his Christmas
14 manger scene, which will be greatly missed; and

15 WHEREAS, Stephen Otis was preceded in death by his parents
16 and several other loved ones; and

17 WHEREAS, Stephen Otis is survived by his wife of 61 years,
18 Dorothy; his children, Stephen J. Otis, Elizabeth A. (Joseph)
19 Henning, and Jennifer W. L. (William) Hoeske; his
20 grandchildren, Ryan Carr, Stephanie (Dave) Fanthorpe, J.
21 Benjamin Henning, Trae Hoeske, Jesse Henning, and Lynsey
22 Hoeske; his great-grandchildren, Kerrigan Carr, and June

1 Fanthorpe; his sisters, Jeanne (Jim) Schaefer, and Midge
2 (Lowell) Wagner; and his special dogs, Mable and Sparkle;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
6 Stephen H. Otis, and extend our sincere condolences to his
7 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Stephen Otis as an expression of our
11 deepest sympathy.