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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 Joseph Michael Baltz, who passed away on November 4, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Joseph Baltz attended St. Raymond Elementary and Joliet Catholic High School; he later went on to study at Joliet Junior College, Stephens College, the University of Washington-Seattle (B.A. in Theater), the University of Illinois (M.A. in Theatrical History), and Governor's State University (M.A. in Photography); and

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WHEREAS, Joseph Baltz had several careers over his life and his most recent was his favorite - photography teacher at Joliet Central High School; prior to that, he worked as a professional actor in Chicago and New York, touring with the Goodman Theatre and several other productions, including his own one-man show about his favorite poet, Robert Service; for 20 years, he owned his own picture frame store in Joliet, the Jewel Frame Shop; in 2000, he followed his lifelong hobby of photography into his most passionate profession: teaching; and

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WHEREAS, Joseph Baltz believed in people and measured life in friendships; he wanted to know their stories; he collected stories, read them, wrote them, and told them with a charisma

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1 that captured his audiences immediately; stories were his way  
2 of searching for meaning and bonding with friends, both old and  
3 new; he was an incredibly skilled writer, leaving behind a  
4 trove of essays, projects, short stories, and correspondences;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Joseph Baltz was preceded in death by his mother,  
7 Lydia Baltz (Peeling); his father, Paul Meade Baltz; and his  
8 brother, John (Ginny) Baltz; and

9 WHEREAS, Joseph Baltz is survived by his wife, Marie  
10 Pierre; his daughter, Emilie; his son, Timothee; his brothers  
11 and sisters, Paul Baltz, Nan (Dave) Clinton, Jim (Cetta) Baltz,  
12 Sally (Ed) Kowalski, and Mary (Pat) Lenaghan; many nieces and  
13 nephews; and all of his loving and supportive friends and  
14 colleagues; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
17 Joseph Michael Baltz, and extend our sincere condolences to his  
18 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to the family of Joseph Baltz as an expression of our  
22 deepest sympathy.