



HR0839

LRB101 21319 MST 71950 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 Gary D.
4 Niebur of Edwardsville, who passed away on May 2, 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur was born in Wood River to Melvin and
6 Edna (Huelsman) Niebur on September 13, 1955; he grew up on
7 Dunlap Lake and spent many summers playing Little League and
8 Legion Post 199 baseball; he loved to recount the story of the
9 home run that made its way from the ball field to the Leclaire
10 water tower; he married Debra Werden at St. Boniface Church in
11 Edwardsville on July 15, 1983; and

12 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur served as chief executive officer of
13 the Edwardsville YMCA for 35 years, accepting the position in
14 1982; he established the financial assistance scholarship
15 program to ensure that every resident could participate in YMCA
16 programming, regardless of their ability to pay; under his
17 leadership, the organization grew steadily in membership,
18 expanded to three locations, and achieved record levels of
19 private donations to fund capital improvements by the time of
20 his retirement in 2018; upon his retirement, the Edwardsville
21 YMCA Board of Directors named the ESIC facility the "Niebur
22 Center" in his honor; and

1 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur began his career with the City of
2 Edwardsville as a teenager, doing lawn maintenance for the
3 parks and recreation department; in 1985, he was elected to the
4 city council, where he spent eight years as an alderman; in
5 1993, he began his first term as mayor of Edwardsville, a
6 position he held for 20 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur was active with multiple
8 organizations, including the Edwardsville Rotary Club, the
9 Anderson Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, the Greater
10 Edwardsville Area Foundation, the First Cloverleaf Bank Board
11 of Directors, and the Metro East Park and Recreation District;
12 he was also a member of the Illinois Municipal League, where he
13 served as president in 2002; and

14 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur was the recipient of numerous
15 community service awards and accolades, including the Jaycees
16 Ten Outstanding Young Persons in the State of Illinois, the
17 Rotary Club International Paul Harris Fellowship Award, the Boy
18 Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award, the SIUE
19 Religious Center Interfaith Award, and the Edwardsville Glen
20 Carbon Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award; and

21 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur loved last minute road trips with
22 anyone that would ride along and most frequently visited Lake
23 of the Ozarks in Missouri and Miramar Beach, Florida; he often

1 bragged about the peak of his golf career, winning the 1995
2 Sunset Hills Member Guest Championship with his dear friend
3 Gordon Broom; anyone that had the pleasure of being seated next
4 to him at a social gathering was guaranteed to have an
5 entertaining evening of laughter and story telling; and

6 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur was preceded in death by his father,
7 Melvin Niebur; and

8 WHEREAS, Gary Niebur is survived by his wife, Debra; his
9 daughters, Ashley (Josh) Sharp, Amanda Niebur, and Abby Niebur;
10 his son, Andrew Niebur; his grandchildren, Blair and Brady
11 Sharp; his brother, Randy (Jo) Niebur; his sister, Jan (Mark)
12 Muckensturm; his sister, Gail (Roy) Eagle; his brother, Mark
13 Niebur; and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we mourn the passing of Gary D. Niebur and extend our sincere
18 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
19 him; and be it further

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