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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 Donald Lee "Don" Totten of Cornelius, formerly of Elgin, who passed away on April 2, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Don Totten was born to Edgar and Louise Totten in Brooklyn, New York on February 19, 1933; he was raised in New Jersey and attended Ridgewood High School; he received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Notre Dame University in 1955; shortly after graduation, he married Joyce Anderson; and

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WHEREAS, After a few years in the engineering field, Don Totten was elected Republican Committeeman of Schaumburg Township in 1966; he was elected to the Illinois legislature in 1972; he was elected State Senator in 1980; in 1982, he ran for Lieutenant Governor; he was elected Chairman of the Cook County Republican Central Committee in 1985; in July of 1990, he was appointed Director of the Regional Transportation Authority; throughout this time, he was president of a private consulting firm specializing in government relations, management, and political consulting; and

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WHEREAS, In 1976, Don Totten was the State Chairman of the Illinois Citizens for Reagan and a member of the Steering

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1 Committee of the Illinois President Ford Committee; he received  
2 the Illinois Conservative Union's Legislator of the Year Award  
3 in 1977; in 1980, he was the Regional Political Director and  
4 Illinois State Chairman for the Reagan for President Committee  
5 and a member of Reagan's transition team; he was appointed to  
6 the International Joint Commission in July of 1981; and

7 WHEREAS, Don Totten was preceded in death by his parents;  
8 his wife, Joyce; his daughter, Donna; and his sister, Betty  
9 Estelle; and

10 WHEREAS, Don Totten is survived by his sister, Barbara  
11 Hellenack; his children, Diane Faldstein, Robert (Cyndi)  
12 Totten; and Kathy (Mike) Weber; his grandchildren, Brett  
13 Faldstein, Ericka Faldstein, Kyle Weber, Jennifer Totten, Alex  
14 Weber, Daniel Totten, and Brian Totten; and his great-grandson,  
15 Joshua Brady; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
18 Donald Lee "Don" Totten and extend our sincere condolences to  
19 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
22 presented to the family of Don Totten as an expression of our

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1 deepest sympathy.