



SR0809

LRB101 15395 MST 64641 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 Arthur L. Leenerman of Mahomet, who passed away on November 4, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman was born in Sibley to Alonzo Louis and Ida Brucker Leenerman on July 5, 1924; he married Ethel L. Bryant in Champaign on July 26, 1969; and

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WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman served in the U.S. Navy during World War II aboard the USS Indianapolis; he was a Radarman 3 class; he survived the sinking of the USS Indianapolis after it was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine in the closing days of the war; he was one of only 317 sailors who survived the sinking and spent four and a half days adrift in the sea before being rescued; he was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds inflicted during the sinking and his ordeal in the sea; and

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WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman was a member of the USS Indianapolis Survivors Organization and attended numerous reunions since its inception in 1960; he has been honored in several of the books and documentaries about the sinking of the ship; and

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WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman was an avid outdoorsman and

1 enjoyed hunting and fishing; he also enjoyed gardening and grew
2 trees from seedlings which he planted at Mount Hope Cemetery in
3 Sibley; and

4 WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman was preceded in death by his wife
5 of 47 years, Ethel, and his stepdaughter, Cynthia Cooper; and

6 WHEREAS, Arthur Leenerman is survived by his son, Gregory
7 (Susan) Leenerman; his sister, Marilyn Gudenrath; his
8 granddaughters, Emma and Kristen Leenerman; his grandsons,
9 Jason Eaton and Ryan Cooper; three great-grandchildren; and
10 many cherished nieces, nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 Arthur L. Leenerman and extend our sincere condolences to his
14 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Arthur Leenerman as an expression of
18 our deepest sympathy.