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LRB101 15573 MST 64918 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 Peter Dennis "Pete" Valek, who passed away on November 1, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Pete Valek was born in Joliet to Peter and Ann (Hertko) Valek on March 1, 1941; he attended Saints Cyril and Methodius Grade School and graduated from Joliet Catholic High School in 1959; he married Judy Bock on June 26, 1965; and

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WHEREAS, Pete Valek had a long and successful career as a chemist and environmental safety and health manager, spanning five decades at the former Stauffer Chemical Plant in Joliet; and

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WHEREAS, Pete Valek was a founding and very proud member of the Young Athletic Men of Middle America, a group whose membership covered the few blocks around the old east side neighborhood and produced lifelong friendships and dear memories; he was an active member and parent at Saint Patrick's Church and School; he volunteered countless hours as coach, parish council member, and athletic board member and for numerous other duties; most recently, he was a member of the Moran Athletic Club and the East Side Knights of Columbus; and

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1 WHEREAS, Pete Valek was affectionately known as "Denny" or
2 "Buzzard"; he enjoyed family trips, especially to the Wisconsin
3 Dells; he and Judy loved to travel and visit national parks; he
4 enjoyed learning about history and the natural world; in
5 retirement, he took up gardening, puttering around the house,
6 and watching baseball, rooting for his favorite team, the
7 Yankees; and

8 WHEREAS, Pete Valek was preceded in death by his father,
9 Peter "Patsy" Valek; his mother, Ann Valek; his brother, Paul
10 Valek; his mother-in-law, Marguerite Bock; his brother-in-law,
11 John Bock; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear
12 friends; and

13 WHEREAS, Pete Valek is survived by his wife of 54 years,
14 Judy; his children, Peter (Barb), Matthew (Suzy), and Eve
15 (Paul) Garcia; his grandchildren, Nicole, Emma, Ariana,
16 Nicholas, Olivia, Anna, Elijah, and Ruby; his
17 great-grandchildren, Blake and Jack; his brothers, Bernie
18 (Elba) and Ray (Jeanette); and many nieces, nephews, cousins,
19 and friends; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
22 Peter Dennis "Pete" Valek and extend our sincere condolences to
23 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to the family of Pete Valek as an expression of our
4 deepest sympathy.