



SR1236

LRB101 21635 LAW 72570 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of former Illinois State Senator Lawrence M. "Larry" Walsh Sr., who passed away on June 3, 2020; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was born in Joliet to Robert and Alice (Hess) Walsh Sr. on March 3, 1948; he graduated from Elwood Grade School in 1962, Joliet East High School in 1966, and Joliet Junior College in 1968, where he earned his associate's degree in Agriculture; he was awarded two honorary doctoral degrees from Lewis University and the University of St. Francis; he married Irene Quigley on November 29, 1969; together, they raised their family in Elwood; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was a devoted farmer; he loved the land and raising his children on the family farm; and

14

15

WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh began his long career in public service as a member of the Elwood School Board in 1970; he was first elected Jackson Township Supervisor in 1973, a position he held until December 2004; he served on the Will County Board in 1974 and 1992; he served as an Illinois State Senator, representing the 43rd District, from April 1997 to January 2005; he finished his career in public service as the Will County Executive, a position he held since being elected in 2004; his mission as a

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

1 public servant was always to better the lives of people who
2 lived and worked in his community; he brought a voice to
3 disability issues, senior services, preservation, and
4 agricultural concerns; and

5 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was an active and dedicated member of
6 the community; he served on a number of boards, including the
7 Will County Center for Economic Development, the Will County
8 Governmental League, the Will County Farm Bureau, the Joliet
9 Chamber of Commerce, the Joliet City Center Partnership, the
10 Joliet Owners and Managers Association, and the Chicago
11 Metropolitan Agency on Planning; he was also a member of the
12 Joliet Exchange Club, the Elwood Lions Club, Friends of
13 Hospice, and many local chambers of commerce; he passionately
14 contributed to local charities, including the Morning Star
15 Mission, Make a Wish Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, and
16 Cornerstone; and

17 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was committed to his faith and was a
18 lifelong parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in
19 Wilmington; he attended daily mass and served as a Eucharistic
20 Minister; he was a member of the Knights of Columbus; and

21 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh enjoyed playing cards with his many
22 friends, traveling with his wife and dear cousins MaryJane and
23 Joe, and giving tractor rides to his grandchildren; and

1 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was known for his vibrant personality
2 and his recognizable, loud voice; he will long be remembered as
3 a dedicated family man and a loyal friend and for voicing the
4 guardian angel Clarence in WJOL's annual radio show performance
5 of It's a Wonderful Life; and

6 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh was preceded in death by his parents;
7 his father-in-law, Marvin Sr.; and his mother-in-law, Mary
8 (McCormick) Quigley; his brothers, Robert Jr. and Edward; his
9 brothers-in-law, Tom Baudino, Richard Quigley, and Marvin Jr.
10 "Jimmy" Quigley; and

11 WHEREAS, Sen. Walsh is survived by his wife of over 50
12 years, Irene; his children, Larry Jr. (Theresa), Frank (Micki),
13 Matthew (Danielle), Sarah (Kyle) Horton, Shawn (Amy), and Brian
14 (Brandy); his 20 grandchildren, Katelynn, Frank Jr., Aidan,
15 Jacob, Matthew Jr., Becca Horton, Nolan, Casie, Joshua,
16 Nicholas, Caleb, Breanna Horton, Brayden, Brittany Horton,
17 Liam, Brody, Charles, Griffin, Molly, and Samuel; his siblings,
18 Joanne (Martin) Katzmarek, John (Sue), Mary (the late Tom)
19 Baudino, Marty (Karen), and Nancy (Linda Mackley); his
20 sisters-in-law, Linda Walsh and Donna Walsh; his
21 brothers-in-law, Michael (Pat), Paul, and Bill Quigley; and his
22 numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Illinois State Senator Lawrence M. "Larry" Walsh Sr. and extend
4 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who
5 knew and loved him; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of the late Sen. Walsh as an expression
8 of our deepest sympathy.