



HR0474

LRB102 20378 ECR 29236 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate Richard L. Duchossois of Barrington Hills on the occasion of his 100th birthday; and

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WHEREAS, Richard L. Duchossois was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 7, 1921; he was raised in Beverly and attended Morgan Park Military Academy, where he graduated in 1940; he attended Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Kentucky; and

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WHEREAS, In 1942, Richard L. Duchossois was given orders to report to training at the U.S. Army's Tank Destroyer unit; he later became the commander of Company C of the 610th Tank Destroyer Battalion and landed on Utah Beach in Normandy while serving under the 80th Division of General George Patton's Third Army; his company fought through central France and east across to the Moselle River; in a German counterattack, he was shot and temporarily paralyzed but soon returned to lead his battalion in the Battle of the Bulge; and

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WHEREAS, When World War II formally ended, Richard J. Duchossois served as the military governor of Kreis Eichstadt in Germany and eventually rose to the rank of major; he was

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1 released from active service in 1946 and was awarded the  
2 Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars; and

3 WHEREAS, Richard L Duchossois joined the Thrall Car  
4 Manufacturing Company, becoming CEO and president; he  
5 subsequently purchased the Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp,  
6 later renamed Duchossois Industries, and became its chairman;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In 1967, Richard L. Duchossois purchased and  
9 developed Hill 'N' Dale Farm in Barrington Hills in McHenry  
10 County; it became one of Illinois' top Thoroughbred breeding  
11 farms; in 1983, he purchased Arlington Park Race Track, which  
12 later merged with Churchill Downs Incorporated in 2000; and

13 WHEREAS, Richard L. Duchossois, affectionately known as  
14 "Mr. D", developed Arlington Park International Race Track  
15 into one of the most beautiful and renowned horse racing  
16 facilities in the world; he has been awarded the American  
17 Jockey Club's Gold Medal and the Joe Palmer Award for  
18 Meritorious Service to Racing from the National Turf Writers  
19 Association and was inducted into the Chicagoland Sports Hall  
20 of Fame; he was also inducted into the National Museum of  
21 Racing and Hall of Fame and named one of their Pillars of the  
22 Turf; and

1           WHEREAS, Richard L. Duchossois established the Duchossois  
2 Family Foundation (DFF), which has made donations in excess of  
3 \$137 million to the University of Chicago Medical Center;  
4 these donations culminated in the establishment of the  
5 Duchossois Family Institute; through other philanthropic  
6 grants, the DFF has made substantial impacts upon dozens of  
7 charitable organizations benefiting thousands of people in  
8 Illinois and across the United States; and

9           WHEREAS, Richard L. Duchossois received the Sword of  
10 Loyola Award from Loyola University in Chicago in 2014; he  
11 became a director of the National World War II Museum in New  
12 Orleans so he could continue his dedication to his country and  
13 to the mission of educating current and future generations  
14 that freedom and independence are not free; therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
16 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
17 we wish Richard L. Duchossois, "Mr. D", a very happy 100th  
18 birthday and many more happy and healthy years; and be it  
19 further

20           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to Richard L. Duchossois as an expression of our  
22 good wishes.