



SR0211

LRB102 17986 LAW 24779 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 former Bloomington Mayor Richard D. "Rich" Buchanan, who passed away on March 30, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan was born in Clinton to Millard and Myrna Hawkins Buchanan on May 19, 1939; he was born to a railroading family; he served in the U.S. Army; he married Judy Geary in Sycamore on July 6, 1963; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan worked for General Telephone Company after his military service; he was later hired by State Farm, where he worked for 35 years and recruited thousands of young, recent college graduates to start their careers in the Systems Department; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan served as chairman of the McLean County Regional Planning Commission; he was elected to the Bloomington City Council and served for two terms; he then served for two terms as mayor from 1977 to 1985; he was known for his passion for community service and was regarded as a listener, a facilitator, and someone who made a difference; his final electoral position was as a member on the McLean County Board until 2017; and

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1           WHEREAS, Alongside his wife Judy, Rich Buchanan was a  
2 recipient of the 2019 History Makers award hosted by the  
3 McLean County History Museum; and

4           WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan was committed to his faith; he  
5 enjoyed supporting all things connected to Bloomington-Normal;  
6 he loved performing barbershop with Bloomington's Sound of  
7 Illinois Chorus; he followed Redbird basketball and was a  
8 longtime supporter of local women's softball; he was a loyal  
9 fan to the Chicago Cubs for 73 years; and

10           WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan was known for his love of working a  
11 room and for always being upbeat, positive, and honest; he was  
12 very proud of his wife and his children; he was affectionately  
13 called "Papau" by his granddaughters; he will be remembered as  
14 a respected public servant and someone who always encouraged  
15 others; and

16           WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan was preceded in death by his  
17 parents, three sisters, and one brother; and

18           WHEREAS, Rich Buchanan is survived by his wife; his  
19 children, Jennifer Buchanan, Julie (Mike Warren) Buchanan, and  
20 Gary Buchanan; his special granddaughters, Seabra Fae Holstein  
21 and Ellie Warren; his sister, Janyce Gross; his brother,  
22 Robert (Marilyn) Buchanan; his special nephews, Mike Ellington

1 and Mike Gross; and a host of nieces and nephews; therefore, be  
2 it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
5 former Bloomington Mayor Richard D. "Rich" Buchanan and extend  
6 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who  
7 knew and loved him; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the family of Rich Buchanan as an expression of  
10 our deepest sympathy.