



SR0629

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of William F. "Bill" Meier of
4 Jacksonville, who passed away on November 9, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Meier was born to Francis "Frankie" and
6 Emaline Collins Meier on September 2, 1949; he grew up in
7 Bethel; after his mother passed when he was a young boy, he and
8 his father continued to live above the small general store in
9 Bethel, and he spent most of his time helping his dad operate
10 the store when he was not playing a multitude of sports; he was
11 a star athlete at Concord Triopia High School, where he broke
12 several records; he played football briefly at Culver-Stockton
13 College before joining the U.S. Air Force in 1968; and

14 WHEREAS, Bill Meier returned from service and worked at
15 the FS plant in Bluffs; he then worked as a salesman and
16 eventually as sales manager at Ray Green Chevrolet for many
17 years; he won several sales awards before he and two partners
18 opened their own car business, Prairieland Motors; he was
19 elected as a Morgan County Commissioner in 2004 and was
20 serving his third term at the time of his death; and

21 WHEREAS, Bill Meier was active in community service; he
22 was a member of the Elks Club and a past member of the Moose,

1 where he served as state organist for several years; he
2 belonged to the Jacksonville Country Club and the Franklin
3 Outing Club, where he served on the board for many years; he
4 helped develop the West Morgan County Water Corporation; he
5 was a member of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, the
6 Jacksonville Kiwanis, and Franklin American Legion Post #308;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Bill Meier was baptized and confirmed in the
9 Lutheran faith; he transferred to Durbin Methodist Church when
10 he married Joena; he was an active member and served in many
11 ways, including enthusiastically playing the organ for the
12 congregation at Durbin over the past 40 years; he loved music,
13 particularly Southern Gospel and pop classics; he began
14 playing in church as a young boy and never turned down a
15 request to play the piano at celebrations or social events
16 over the years; he also enjoyed using his boundless
17 personality on the stage, performing in the Passavant Follies
18 and Jacksonville Theater Guild productions and in countless
19 other venues in the area; he loved his family, traveling, and
20 entertaining and rarely failed to bring a smile to the faces of
21 those around him; and

22 WHEREAS, Bill Meier was preceded in death by his parents;
23 and

1 WHEREAS, Bill Meier is survived by his wife of 42 years,
2 Joena (Smith); his children, Liza Meier (Dimitri Rologis),
3 William "Billy" (Jurga) Meier Jr., JB (Anne) Meier, and Alex
4 (Chloe) Meier; and his grandchildren, Kenna Meier, Jace Meier,
5 Phillip Rologis, and Aris Rologis; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
8 William F. "Bill" Meier and extend our sincere condolences to
9 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Bill Meier as an expression of our
13 deepest sympathy.