



SR0743

LRB102 23944 MST 33145 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened  
3 to learn of the death of Ralph "Edward" Cowman III of New  
4 Berlin, who passed away on November 15, 2021; and

5           WHEREAS, Edward Cowman was born in Alexandria, Louisiana  
6 to Ralph E. and Patricia Gates Strawn Cowman on February 25,  
7 1945; he grew up in Timwell and graduated from New Berlin High  
8 School; he married Suzanne Sapp in Sherman on September 4,  
9 1965 and moved to the Alexander/New Berlin area, where he  
10 raised his family; and

11           WHEREAS, Edward Cowman was a lifelong farmer and raised  
12 Black Angus Cattle in his early days; he had been an auctioneer  
13 for 50 years and was a member of the Illinois Auctioneers  
14 Association and President of Cowman Auction LLC.; and

15           WHEREAS, Edward Cowman was past president of the Illinois  
16 American Agriculture Movement, Founding Father of the Ashland  
17 Community Days Tractor Pull for 30 years, and a former  
18 chairman of the Morgan County Fair Tractor Pull for over 40  
19 years; he served as a director on the Pleasant Plains Elevator  
20 Board and as director on the Sangamon County Fair Board; he  
21 also served on the Farm Credit Advisory Board and on the board  
22 of Woodwreath Cemetery; he was a long-time member of the

1 Illinois Tractor Pullers Association and a former tractor  
2 puller; and

3 WHEREAS, Edward Cowman was a Free Mason; he was a lifetime  
4 member of the NRA and enjoyed clay shooting and becoming a  
5 Master Shooter; his true sense of pride came from his family,  
6 his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, Edward Cowman was preceded in death by his  
8 parents; his nephew, Cody Morris; and his brother-in-law, Tom;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Edward Cowman is survived by his wife of 56  
11 years, Suzanne; his children, Pamela (Tim) Birdsell, Ron  
12 Cowman, and Aron (Penny) Cowman; his grandchildren, Alyssa  
13 (Adam) Cully, Kayla (Eric) Jokisch, Lindsey Birdsell, Riley  
14 Cowman, Kirby Cowman, and Jake Cowman; his step-grandson,  
15 Dylan Buchanan; his great-grandchildren, Cam Edward and Tess  
16 Lynn Cully, Wirth Allen Jokisch, and one on the way; his  
17 sisters, Ann Whewell, Pam (Ron) Walpole, and Dinah (Fred)  
18 Bindner; and several nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
21 Ralph "Edward" Cowman III and extend our sincere condolences  
22 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be

1 it further

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