



SR0866

LRB102 26457 LAW 36887 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Philip A. "Phil" Ortiz, O.D., who passed away on February 15, 2022; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Phil Ortiz was born to Benito and Juana Ortiz on April 15, 1936; he graduated from Marquette High School in 1954, where he was captain of the varsity basketball team; he married Gaydeen Horna in 1958, and she preceded him in death in 2006; he graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago in 1963; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz joined his father-in-law Dr. Jerome V. Horna's practice after graduating in 1963; he then started his own optometric practice at the Tratt Clinic in Morris before opening his own building in 1969; his practice grew and underwent four major additions; he also supported Gay in her artistic endeavors, including the iconic 1970s dress shop The City Mouse; and

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz journeyed with the nonprofit Voluntary Optometry Serving Humanity (VOSH) on his first eye care mission in 1978; from that year on, he worked to provide vision to underserved people every day of his life; and

19

20

21

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz, Gay, and the late Dr. Charles Cools  
2 decided to create their own nonprofit and co-founded I Care  
3 International in 1987, building from a community of volunteers  
4 and fueled by the generosity of service club members from the  
5 Lions, Kiwanis, and Rotarians around the world; through their  
6 nonprofit, well over 350,000 people have benefited in some way  
7 from I Care efforts; and

8           WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz was recognized for his contributions to  
9 humanity by several organizations, including the Paul Harris  
10 Fellowship and Lions Club International; he was also named  
11 Morris Citizen of the Year and inducted into the Marquette  
12 High School Alumni Hall of Fame; and

13           WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz was deeply committed to his family, and  
14 he cheered for his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces,  
15 and nephews at sporting and varied activities; alongside Gay,  
16 he gained lifelong friendships while spending many years in  
17 San Luis Obispo County, California; he enjoyed hunting and  
18 fishing all over the world; he loved history, and he had a keen  
19 knowledge of world cultures and delighted in exploring their  
20 music and foods; he took great pride in his garden and loved to  
21 share it with others, and he was known to bring food and  
22 goodies to his friends, family, and neighbors; and

23           WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz was preceded in death by his parents;

1 his wife, Gay; his sister, Mary Perez; his brothers, Richard  
2 "Dick", Angel, Tony, Dan, Jose, Juan, and David; his  
3 sisters-in-law, Margaret, Ruby, and Patricia; his nephews,  
4 Rick Perez and Scott Ortiz; and his niece, Lisa Marie; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Ortiz is survived by his children, Dawn  
6 Ortiz-Legg and Dr. Tim (Karen) Ortiz; his grandchildren,  
7 Laurie (Geno) Woolsey, Taylor (Sean) Hershman, Ben Ortiz, and  
8 Georgia Legg; his great-grandchildren, Addisen Woolsey, Miles  
9 Woolsey, Erin Woolsey, Quinn Hershman, and Charlie Hershman;  
10 his brother-in-law, Ray Perez; his sister-in-law, Judy Ortiz;  
11 his many nieces and nephews; and his companion of the last  
12 several years, Rita DeAngelo; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
15 Philip A. "Phil" Ortiz, O.D. and extend our sincere  
16 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
17 him; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Dr. Ortiz as an expression of our  
20 deepest sympathy.