



SR0905

LRB102 26701 MST 37541 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 Wendell Dean Graven of Springfield, who passed away on February 28, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Wendell Graven was born in Findlay to John and Ethel (Steele) Graven on March 1, 1934; he graduated from Findlay High School in 1952 and married Fern Thacker on December 31, 1954; and

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WHEREAS, Wendell Graven owned and operated Hick's Gas Station; he also worked at Charlie Wilson's Ford Dealership and as a Purchasing Agent at International Paper for 20 years; and

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WHEREAS, Wendell Graven served on the Shelbyville School Board from 1972 to 1976 and was an original organizer of the Little League baseball diamonds; he was also the founder of the Pony League and one of the original volunteers for the Shelbyville Festival of Lights; and

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WHEREAS, Wendell Graven was an avid fan of Illinois basketball and the St. Louis Cardinals; he was the MVP of the Shelby County Basketball Tournament in 1952 and was proud to be inducted into the IHSA Coaches Basketball Hall of Fame in

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1 1991; and

2 WHEREAS, Wendell Graven was preceded in death by his
3 parents and his sister, Lucille; and

4 WHEREAS, Wendell Graven is survived by his wife of 67
5 years, Fern; his sons, Dean (Stacey) and Doug Graven (Amy
6 Cashman); his grandchildren, Tina Gardiner, Kyle Graven, Bryon
7 Graven, and Brett Graven; four great-grandchildren; three
8 great-great-grandchildren; his sisters, Juanita Tucker and
9 Barbara (Ed) Olivier; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and
10 his grand-dog, Rudy; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
13 Wendell Dean Graven and extend our sincere condolences to his
14 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Wendell Graven as an expression of
18 our deepest sympathy.