



SR1152

LRB102 28613 LAW 40496 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 Donald F. "Don" Pickard of Oak Park, who passed away on May 2, 2022 at the age of 86; and

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WHEREAS, Don Pickard was born to Francis L. and Muriel (Little) Pickard in Rushville on November 25, 1935; he and his brother were raised in Littleton, where their family owned and operated Pickard & Son, Groceries; and

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WHEREAS, Don Pickard attended Knox College in Galesburg, where he joined the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, served in the ROTC, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa; he also met his future wife, Joan Christiansen, during his college years; upon graduating from Knox College in 1957, they officially married; and

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WHEREAS, Don Pickard and Joan soon moved to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he completed his basic training in the U.S. Airborne Infantry Officer's Basic Course; he was elevated to first lieutenant before he moved to Chicago to accept a job with the Illinois Bell Telephone Company in 1959; and

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WHEREAS, Don Pickard utilized his public relations and speech writing skills to his and Illinois Bell's advantage; he

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1 was an invaluable asset when the company was broken up by way  
2 of a consent decree; ultimately, he became assistant vice  
3 president of Ameritech before retiring in 1990; and

4 WHEREAS, Don Pickard was passionate about the arts and his  
5 faith community; during the 1980s, he was a board member of  
6 Chicago's Auditorium Theater; for more than 50 years, he was  
7 also a strong presence at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, where  
8 he served as a deacon and an elder; and

9 WHEREAS, Don Pickard suffered the loss of his first wife,  
10 Joan; healing and time enabled him to choose to remarry in  
11 1983, and his marriage to his second wife, Roylene, lasted 40  
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, Don Pickard enjoyed fishing, swimming in his  
14 backyard pool, telling bad jokes, and all things related to  
15 his alma mater, Knox College; and

16 WHEREAS, Don Pickard relished spending time with his  
17 family and provided advice to anyone who needed it; he was also  
18 a master storyteller; and

19 WHEREAS, Don Pickard was preceded in death by his first  
20 wife, Joan Pickard; his parents; and his stepson, H. James  
21 "Jimmy" Murray III; and

1           WHEREAS, Don Pickard is survived by his children, Sharon  
2           Evans (Gary) and Karen Bromley (Kent); his stepchildren,  
3           Steven Murray, Cari Kremer (Doug), and Debora Panza; his 14  
4           grandchildren; his two great-grandchildren; his brother, Jack  
5           Pickard (Janice); and his seven nieces and nephews; therefore,  
6           be it

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

12          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13          presented to the family of Don Pickard as an expression of our  
14          deepest sympathy.