



SR1353

LRB102 29895 ECR 42069 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 Richard Victor Welton, who passed away on December 1, 2022; and

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WHEREAS, Richard Welton was born to Victor and Wanda (Wassell) Welton in Richfield on September 17, 1939; soon after graduating from Manual Training High School, he received orders to report to the Marine Corps Commandant in Washington, D.C. on June 18, 1957; he entered the U.S. Marine Corps at the rank of sergeant and was chosen to play in the President's U.S. Marine Band, becoming the band's youngest musician; he was especially proud of the many opportunities to play for state dinners at the White House; he entertained both foreign and domestic diplomats and even played at John F. Kennedy's inauguration; he married Marilyn Smith on September 14, 1963; and

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WHEREAS, After his service, Richard Welton returned to Peoria and obtained his master barber license; he continued to barber throughout the time he worked at Keystone and Pabst; and

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WHEREAS, Richard Welton was an accomplished saxophonist, clarinetist, and pianist; he played in his own band, the Midas

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1 Touch, as well as in the Peoria Municipal Band, the Bill
2 Hardesty brass, and the Chuck Cunningham Band and at the Heart
3 of Illinois Fair; he also served as the choir director at Grace
4 United Methodist Church for 25 years; and

5 WHEREAS, In his free time, Richard Welton enjoyed
6 tinkering with cars and supporting his children and
7 grandchildren by attending their sporting events and other
8 activities; and

9 WHEREAS, Richard Welton was preceded in death by his
10 parents; his wife; one brother; and two grandchildren, Daniel
11 James Welton and Noah Nathaniel Welton; and

12 WHEREAS, Richard Welton is survived by his children,
13 Richard Todd (Diane) Welton, Teresa Welton, Tammy (James)
14 Zachman, and Tony Welton; his grandchildren, Drew (Christie)
15 Zachman, Shawnie Zachman, Brice (Esther) Welton, James
16 (Rebecca) Welton, Payton Welton, and Isabella Welton; his
17 great-grandchildren, Lexi, Kylee, Tana, and Noelle; his half
18 sister, Kethear Ray; his sister-in-law, Carol Smith; his
19 brother-in-law, Buck Smith; and several nieces and nephews;
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 Richard Victor Welton and extend our sincere condolences to
2 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Richard Welton as an expression of
6 our deepest sympathy.