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LRB103 33296 ECR 63106 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 Michael Leo "Mike" Hilber of Rantoul, who passed away on July 13, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Hilber was born to Leo and Elaine Hilber in Marshfield, Wisconsin on August 28, 1948; he graduated from Marshfield High School in 1966; he joined the U.S. Air Force in 1968, and he was first stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota before being deployed to Okinawa, Japan, Vietnam, and Thailand; he was formally trained as a construction-equipment operator but was augmented to load bombs on the B-52 Stratofortress, supporting the air war over Vietnam; once he returned to the U.S., he was stationed at Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul; he married Yolanda Alvarado in Chapel 1 of Chanute Air Force Base in 1973; while on military reserve status, he attended Parkland College, where he earned his associate's degree in 1980; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Hilber began a career with the Fisher Water Department in 1985, where he served as the water and wastewater superintendent for 25 years until his retirement; he served in the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard, and the Air Force Reserves until his retirement from Grissom Air Force Base in Indiana in 2002; and

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1 WHEREAS, Mike Hilber volunteered with the honor guard,
2 memorializing veterans at numerous services; he also spent
3 five years volunteering with the World Free Fall Convention in
4 the early 2000s, where he made lifelong friends and countless
5 memories; and

6 WHEREAS, Mike Hilber had a vast array of hobbies
7 throughout his life; he was interested in leatherworking and
8 was an avid Green Bay Packers fan; every summer, he planted and
9 tended to a garden that was well known for producing sweet
10 peas, tomatoes, and the occasional oversized zucchini; he
11 enjoyed fishing at his family's cottage in northern Wisconsin,
12 which was a central part of his family's life, and having a
13 good scoop of ice cream all year round; and

14 WHEREAS, Mike Hilber was preceded in death by his wife,
15 his parents, and his brothers, Rick and Jeffery; and

16 WHEREAS, Mike Hilber is survived by his daughters, Melinda
17 (Brad) Collins and Carina (Matthew) Gill; his grandchildren,
18 Declan Collins, Ellie Collins, and Amelia Gill; his sister,
19 Jean Loughead; and his brother, Danny Hilber; therefore, be it

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

1 Michael Leo "Mike" Hilber and extend our sincere condolences
2 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
3 it further

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