



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, For John Whiteside, the job of newspaperman has  
3 never been just a way to earn a living; it has been a way to  
4 make a difference in his community, and he has done just that;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, John has been with The Herald News in Joliet since  
7 he graduated from Northern Illinois University in 1971; he  
8 joined the newspaper on July 5, 1971 as a beat reporter, city  
9 editor, and editorial page editor; his first daily column  
10 appeared on July 5, 1981; and

11 WHEREAS, He has used his column to publicize and inspire  
12 several major projects in Will County, including the Law  
13 Enforcement Memorial, the Taylor Pirc video camera project, and  
14 the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery honor guard unit; in  
15 November 2003, the cemetery honored John by creating a special  
16 award named after him for its honor guard graduates; and

17 WHEREAS, He has received more than 150 reporting and  
18 writing awards for his stories over the last 34 years; they  
19 include awards for investigative reporting, spot news,  
20 columns, and feature stories; he was the Suburban Press Club of  
21 Chicago's Journalist of the Year in 1979, the NIU Illinois  
22 Journalist of the Year in 1981, and was inducted into the  
23 Joliet/Will County Project Pride Hall of Pride in 1996; in  
24 November 2004, the Joliet Area Historical Museum kicked off a  
25 campaign to name its War Heroes Gallery after John to honor the  
26 many columns he has written about veterans; and

27 WHEREAS, John has always looked out for the little person,  
28 the person without a voice - he has become their voice; he has  
29 always gone beyond the call of duty for his family, his  
30 newspaper, his community, and his friends; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3           honor John Whiteside, the Air Force veteran, the newspaper  
4           veteran, and the devoted husband to his wife, Mary Jane, and  
5           loving father to his daughter, Shelley; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7           presented to John Whiteside as an expression of our admiration  
8           and esteem.