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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois State Senate were saddened to learn of the death of Robert D. "Bob" Rhodes, Sr. of Divernon, who passed away on Sunday, January 5, 2003; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Rhodes was born on June 15, 1925 in Divernon to William and Janet Rhodes and was one of 15 children; and

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WHEREAS, In 1942, before graduating from Divernon High School, Bob voluntarily enlisted in the United States Marine Corps; he served 3 years, including active duty in the Southwest and Central Pacific area during World War II; he courageously fought to protect freedom at Empress Augusta Bay and in Guam; Bob was honorably discharged from the Marines in 1945 at the rank of Private First Class; Bob ultimately received his high school diploma in May 2002, along with other World War II veterans from the Class of 1943; and

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WHEREAS, After completing service to his country, Bob married Rose Mary Hughes on June 6, 1949, and from that loving marriage, four children were raised: Roberta Woodward of Divernon, Robert Jr. of Pawnee, Randy of Divernon, and Rhonda Bentley of Champaign; and

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WHEREAS, Bob continued a dedication to public service through a distinguished career of over 20 years with the Sangamon County Sheriff's Department from which he retired in 1990 at the rank of Captain; and

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WHEREAS, Bob was highly dedicated to his local community of Divernon where he was a small business owner, served as a volunteer fire fighter, was elected to three terms as Village President from 1961 to 1973, and until his death served as the President of the Divernon Fire Protection District; and

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WHEREAS, In addition to enjoying service to his community, what Bob really enjoyed was spending time with his

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1 family and friends, particularly during the holidays, and  
2 sharing his home with those who loved him and respected him;  
3 he also enjoyed playing cards, collecting trains, and having  
4 dinner with his family; and

5 WHEREAS, Bob was preceded in death by his loving wife,  
6 Rose Mary, his parents and five brothers; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we express our  
9 sympathy to the family of Bob Rhodes, especially his  
10 daughters, Roberta and Rhonda; sons, Robert Jr. and Randy;  
11 son-in-law, Jeff Bentley; daughters-in-law, Julie Rhodes and  
12 Mary Rhodes; brothers, Ronnie, Allen, Kenny, and Russell;  
13 sisters, Betty Jo Karhliker, Helen Armstrong, Billie Bottoms,  
14 Ava Jean Antle, and Agnes Estill; his 8 grandchildren, Tamela  
15 Chayer, Kerri Woodward, Melissa Woodward, Brian Lomelino,  
16 Alisa Meyers, Jamie Lomelino, Josh Rhodes, and Jeremy Rhodes;  
17 as well as his 15 great-grandchildren; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Bob Rhodes with our sincere  
20 condolences.