HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor John A. Barnhart for his many years of dedicated service to his nation as a member of the United States Army and congratulate him for attending the last reunion of General George Patton's army; and

WHEREAS, John Barnhart was born on June 13, 1926; he entered the United States Army in August in 1944 and was placed in the 4th Armor Division, 10th Armor Infantry; he joined the Army just after the Battle of the Bulge and broke through the Siegfried Line with General Patton all the way to Czechoslovakia; and

WHEREAS, As a member of General Patton's army, John Barnhart was once ordered to lacquer a helmet for General Patton, a task that required 15 coats of lacquer and the application of the general's stars; he also had to put clean seat covers on General Patton's Jeep; and

WHEREAS, John Barnhart was subsequently transferred to the Army Air Corps (now the United States Air Force) in 1948; he worked as a crew chief on C-47s, B-26s, and AT-6s; he then became an electronics instructor and retired from the military in 1969 at the rank of Master Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, John Barnhart is the youngest living member of Patton's Army; he will attend the last reunion of Patton's Army on September 10, 2009 in Washington, D.C.; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we honor John A. Barnhart for his many years of dedicated service to his nation as a member of the United States Army, congratulate him for attending the last reunion of General George Patton's army, and wish him great happiness and good health in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to John Barnhart as a symbol of our esteem and respect.

