



SR0797

LRB096 22123 GRL 40744 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Deacon John Edward Coates, who passed away on April 2, 2010; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, John Coates was born on April 9, 1929, in East St. Louis; his parents were the Reverend Peter R. Coates and Henrietta B. (Strong) Coates; he married Betty Mae Brown on January 28, 1956, in Chicago; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, John Coates earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville and later studied theology at the Aquinas Institute of Theology; and

10

11

12

WHEREAS, John Coates was the owner of various businesses throughout his lifetime, but always came back to education; he retired after many years as a teacher with East Saint Louis District 189; and

13

14

15

16

WHEREAS, John Coates was the son of a Baptist minister, but converted to Catholicism at an early age; as his faith strengthened, he decided to become a Franciscan monk; despite leaving the Franciscan order, he remained a dedicated Catholic throughout his life; on April 14, 1994, he was ordained as a Deacon in the Diocese of Belleville by Bishop Wilton Gregory;

17

18

19

20

21

1 he entered into formation to become a Carmelite on December 17,
2 1989 and made his Definitive Promise on November 20, 1994; and

3 WHEREAS, John Coates was preceded in death by his parents
4 and his siblings, Lawrence H. Coates, Jewel C. Coates, Aubrey
5 L. Coates, Helen B. Coates, and Peter R. Coates, Jr.; and

6 WHEREAS, John Coates is survived by his devoted wife, Betty
7 Coates; his daughters, Virginia Coates, Tency (Robert) Hodges,
8 Alexis (Willie) Sanders, and Bernetta (Wayne) Gully; his
9 sister, Edith (Robert) Blackburn; his brother, James (Zennie)
10 Coates; his beloved grandchildren, Danielle Favron,
11 Nicole-Noelle Favron, John-Thomas Favron, Robert-Edward
12 Favron, Alexis Watson, Alexander Watson, Jessica Sanders,
13 David Sanders, Bettina Gully, Wayne Gully, and Angelicia Gully;
14 his great-grandchildren, Tyrese Peoples and Queen Bell; and his
15 many other relatives and friends; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
18 his family and friends, the passing of Deacon John Edward
19 Coates; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of John Coates as an expression of our
22 sympathy.