



HR0692

LRB097 16347 GRL 61503 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Don
4 Hickman of Springfield, who passed away on November 19, 2011;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Don Hickman was born on September 1, 1937, in
7 Trenton, Tennessee; he was the son of Reese and Janie Maude
8 Hickman; he married Betty Baltz on January 5, 1962, in
9 Rutherford, Tennessee; and

10 WHEREAS, Don Hickman proudly served his country as a member
11 of the Tennessee National Guard; and

12 WHEREAS, Don Hickman had a long and distinguished career in
13 journalism; he began his career working with the Dixie Network
14 in Tennessee in 1956, earning a position as the evening news
15 anchor for the network 2 years later; he then moved to Memphis,
16 where he worked for WMC-TV covering stories such as Dr. Martin
17 Luther King, Jr.'s assassination and the "James Meredith
18 Enrollment" at the University of Mississippi; after winning the
19 coveted "Journalist of the Year Award", he became a
20 correspondent for NBC News in Chicago; he also worked as a
21 reporter and newscaster for KSTP in Minneapolis; in 2004, he
22 co-founded Springfield Scene Magazine, a publication focusing

1 on local charities and community events; and

2 WHEREAS, Don Hickman is best known for his 29 years as a
3 newscaster at WICS in Springfield, where he produced several
4 projects earning him many awards, including a national Emmy
5 nomination for his "Living with AIDS" documentary; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2001, Don Hickman earned an honorary doctorate
7 degree from MacMurray College for Public Service; and

8 WHEREAS, Don Hickman took great pride in his annual charity
9 golf outings, which raised thousands of dollars for various
10 organizations throughout central Illinois; he also enjoyed
11 golfing, reading, and spending time with his family and
12 friends; and

13 WHEREAS, Don Hickman is survived by his wife, Betty; his
14 sons, Barry (wife, Christina) and Todd (wife, Dawn); his
15 grandchildren, Stephanie, Hallie, Ryan, Maggie, Hunter, and
16 Jackson; his sister, Pam Flowers; and his many nieces and
17 nephews; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of Don
21 Hickman; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of Don Hickman as an expression of our
3 sympathy.