



SR0073

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Robert St. Peters of Alton, who passed away on February 8, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, Robert was born on September 20, 1923, at St. Joseph Hospital in Alton, exactly one year to the day after his brother, Leonard O. St. Peters, was born; and

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WHEREAS, He was the son of Helen V. (Boercker) St. Peters and Leonard A. St. Peters; he attended SS Peter and Paul School and Marquette High School; after graduation, he enlisted in the United States Navy where he was assigned to the USS Franklin in Norfolk, Virginia; he eventually authored two books about the USS Franklin; after World War II, he attended St. Francis Seminary in Loretto, Pennsylvania, for one year and worked at General Electric in Philadelphia; and

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WHEREAS, He met and later married Helen Loretta Lowrey on June 12, 1948, in Philadelphia; the family moved back to Alton, where he worked at McDonnell Douglas for about 25 years; and

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WHEREAS, He had a long history of service to historical preservation in Alton; he was one of the founders of the Alton Area Landmarks Association and was its president for about 30

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1 years; he worked tirelessly to save the Alton riverfront and
2 the site of the Lincoln-Douglas debate; he was recognized with
3 the Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award and a day was
4 dedicated by the City of Alton as the Robert E. St. Peters Day
5 for his community efforts; and

6 WHEREAS, He was president of the Legion of Mary for many
7 years at Cathedral, his parish; because of his interest in
8 music, he learned to play the Hawaiian guitar as a teenager;
9 later in life he became involved in music at Lewis and Clark
10 Community College, participating in concerts and programs for
11 local nursing homes; and

12 WHEREAS, As a survivor on the USS Franklin, he attended
13 yearly USS Franklin reunions and his dedication to his
14 crewmates and his ship never wavered; he served for many years
15 as the president of the USS Franklin Museum Association; and

16 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen; and

17 WHEREAS, Robert St. Peters is survived by his current wife,
18 Jeeranan "Nan"; his son, Robert B.; and his daughters, Helen
19 Rehn, Joan Beccard, and Janice St. Peters; he will be greatly
20 missed by his eight grandchildren and four
21 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
3 his family and friends, the passing of Robert St. Peters; and
4 be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the family of Robert St. Peters as a symbol of our
7 sincere sympathy.