



SR0802

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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 James J. Goodreau, who passed away on April 27, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, He was born in Chicago on August 9, 1921, the son of the late Francis and Ethel Goodreau; he was the eldest of 4 children; as a young man in Chicago during the depression, he delivered telegrams by bicycle for Western Union; and

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WHEREAS, He attended St. Ignatius High School in Chicago, where he excelled in sports; he attended Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, on a football scholarship; as a starting halfback in 1941, Xavier University went 9 and 1, losing only to Kentucky; and

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WHEREAS, With the onset of World War II, he was drafted into the United States Army; he served in the Army Signal Corps and Army Air Corps; he was commissioned on April 1, 1942 as an April Fools lieutenant; he served in combat in the Pacific Theater on Guam, Tinian, Saipan, and Okinawa; he was awarded a Bronze Star for heroism; at the end of the war, he chose to remain on active duty as one of the first officers in the Air Force; and

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1           WHEREAS, He served for 24 years with the Strategic Air  
2 Command; in his last 4 years of active duty, he served with the  
3 Military Assistance Advisor Group in China during the Vietnam  
4 War and finished his 28-year career with the Armed Forces  
5 Communications Service; during his career, he was awarded many  
6 medals and citations, including the Air Force Commendation  
7 Medal and the Joint Chief of Staff Commendation Medal; and

8           WHEREAS, He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the  
9 University of Pittsburgh while on active duty; he was fluent in  
10 English and Spanish and had a working knowledge of Mandarin; in  
11 1970, he retired from the Air Force and returned to Chicago,  
12 where he worked for Tropical Radio and Telegraph until he again  
13 retired in 1985; and

14           WHEREAS, After retiring, he served as a lector at St. Luke  
15 Church in River Forest and as a Eucharistic minister; he also  
16 volunteered at West Lake Hospital in Melrose Park; he and his  
17 beloved wife traveled the world together visiting many  
18 countries on 6 continents; and

19           WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents; and his  
20 sister, Kay Sullivan; his wife, Alice Suzanne Goodreau, passed  
21 away in 2011; and

22           WHEREAS, James Goodreau is survived by his 5 children,

1 Alice Suzanne Meyers, (wife of Dr. Stephen), Dr. Joseph Francis  
2 Goodreau, (husband of Diane), Richard David Goodreau, Mary  
3 Elizabeth Anderson, (wife of Donald), and Dr. James J.  
4 Goodreau, (husband of Susan); his 9 grandchildren; and 7  
5 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
8 his family and friends, the passing of James Goodreau; and be  
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11 presented to the family of James Goodreau as a symbol of our  
12 sincere sympathy.