



SR0784

LRB098 16319 GRL 51380 r

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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 John Karl Van Dien of Winthrop Harbor, who passed away on December 17, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, John Van Dien was an all-star athlete and graduate of North Chicago Community High School; he subsequently attended Illinois State University, where he played Redbirds football; after playing semi-pro football for the Lake County Rifles, he tried out for the Chicago Bears in the late 1960s; and

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WHEREAS, John Van Dien served as a police officer in his hometown of North Chicago for 30 years until his retirement in 1994 at the rank of master sergeant; many of the rookies he trained later became police command staff throughout Lake County; and

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WHEREAS, John Van Dien served as a Director of the Illinois Police Pension Fund Association and was a member of the North Chicago Police Pension Board for many years; he was also a lifetime member of the Fraternal Order of Police, the Illinois Police Benevolent and Protective Association, and the Illinois Police Association; and

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1 WHEREAS, John Van Dien was the recipient of numerous awards
2 and commendations for high profile convictions; he received a
3 Military Order Purple Heart after being stabbed in the line of
4 duty in 1969; he was also designated the North Chicago Chamber
5 of Commerce "Officer of the Year" in 1985; and

6 WHEREAS, John Van Dien was preceded in death by his
7 brother, Gordon Brooks Van Dien III; his parents, Gordon B. and
8 Della M. Van Dien; and his grandson, Matthew Elliott; and

9 WHEREAS, John Van Dien is survived by his wife of 50 years,
10 Judy (nee Stried) Van Dien; his children, John Karl (Kathleen)
11 Van Dien and Johnette Van Dien; his grandchildren, Johnna-Marie
12 Van Dien, Madisyn Van Dien, Patricia (Daniel) Sarenac, Andrew
13 Elliott, and Ryan Elliott; his great-granddaughter, Ariana
14 Sarenac; his brother, James (Barbara) Van Dien and their
15 children, Michael (Laura) Van Dien and Maribeth Van Dien; and
16 his many cousins, friends, and neighbors; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
19 family and friends, mourn the passing of John Karl Van Dien;
20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to the family of John Van Dien as an expression of

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1 our sympathy.