



HR0839

LRB100 20652 ALS 36095 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Edward  
4 Leroy "Hambone" Emerick of Wood River, who passed away on  
5 February 7, 2018; and

6           WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick was born in Wood River to Edward C.  
7 and Evelyn M. Emerick in 1925; he graduated from East  
8 Alton-Wood River High School in 1944; he was a World War II  
9 Navy veteran and served on the USS Orca; and

10           WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick lived a life full of service and was  
11 dedicated to the City of Wood River; he served as Recreation  
12 Director for 37 years, was elected to the city council, and  
13 served a term as mayor; and

14           WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick's contributions to the City of Wood  
15 River include planning and developing the Wood River Aquatic  
16 Center, running the "Jiveland" teen center, and organizing the  
17 first Oiler Booster Club; he also implemented the Wood River  
18 Khoury League baseball program; he cared deeply about the Parks  
19 and Recreation Department and its mission; and

20           WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick served as President of the Wood  
21 River American Legion Post, President of the Wood River

1 Jaycees, a member of the East Alton-Wood River Hall of Fame,  
2 and a lifelong member of the First Baptist Church in Wood  
3 River; he was an inaugural inductee into the Oiler Alumni Hall  
4 of Fame in 2009; he was also a member of the Illinois Amateur  
5 Softball Association for 65 years and is enshrined in their  
6 Hall of Fame; and

7 WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick was more than just a public figure;  
8 he was a fun-loving person who, as the city's Parks and  
9 Recreation Director, took his responsibility to keep children  
10 entertained seriously; if there is a prevailing memory of him,  
11 though, it is his rendition of "Hambone", which he would  
12 perform on a moment's notice; and

13 WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick was preceded in death by his  
14 parents; his wife, Helen; his brother, Leon "Tootie"; his  
15 sister-in-law, Dorothy; and his nephew, Scot; and

16 WHEREAS, Leroy Emerick is survived by his children, Donna  
17 (Dan) Smith, Dale (Joy), Dana (Micki), and Dean (Sheila)  
18 Emerick; his nephews, Stan (Jo) and Sean (Tish) Emerick; his  
19 grandchildren, Danelle and Drew Emerick, Ryan (Elizabeth)  
20 Emerick, Leah (Keith) Butler, Daniel Emerick, and Nicole (Will)  
21 Balcom; and his three great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
2 mourn the passing of Edward Leroy "Hambone" Emerick and extend  
3 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who  
4 knew and loved him; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to the family of Leroy Emerick as an expression of  
7 our deepest sympathy.